



# **THE BOARD of SUPERVISORS**

## **First District**



**Gloria  
Molina**

## **Second District**



**Yvonne  
Brathwaite  
Burke**

## **Third District**



**Zev  
Yaroslavsky**

## **Fourth District**



**Don  
Knabe**

## **Fifth District**



**Michael D.  
Antonovich**

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1 [PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2003-2004 PROPOSED BUDGET (03-1324)]

2

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THE MEETING WILL PLEASE COME TO ORDER. DO  
5 WE HAVE A PLEDGE? AH STAND FOR THE -- WE DON'T HAVE A SALUTE  
6 THIS MORNING. DO YOU WANT TO... ALL RIGHT. SUPERVISOR KNABE  
7 WILL LEAD US IN THE SALUTE.

8

9 **SUP. KNABE:** WOULD YOU ALL PLEASE RISE AND --

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** AND SAY ANY INSPIRATIONAL WORDS HE WISHES  
12 TO SAY, IN THE WAY OF PRAYER.

13

14 **SUP. KNABE:** WHAT ARE WE DOING? DO YOU WANT ME TO DO BOTH? OKAY  
15 THEN. PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE ATTITUDE OF PRAYER. OUR MOST KIND  
16 AND GRACIOUS HEAVENLY FATHER, WE COME BEFORE YOU THIS MORNING  
17 TO ONCE AGAIN SAY THANK YOU. THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY, THANK  
18 YOU FOR TODAY, AND THANK YOU FOR TOMORROW. THE DECISIONS AHEAD  
19 OF US, DEAR GOD, ARE DIFFICULT, WE ASK FOR YOUR WISDOM, YOUR  
20 GUIDANCE, WE ASK THAT YOU BE WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY,  
21 THE PEOPLE WE SERVE. WE WANT TO GIVE YOU ALL THE PRAISE AND  
22 GLORY, AND ALL GOD'S PEOPLE SAID "AMEN." PLEASE JOIN ME IN THE  
23 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. [ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ]

24





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1    **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WE WILL START WITH THE LIBRARY  
2    ON THESE HEARINGS. WE HAVE A LIST. THESE HEARINGS, ANYONE WHO  
3    DOES NOT GET A CHANCE TO SPEAK TODAY, IT WILL BE GOING OVER TO  
4    NEXT TUESDAY. WE HAVE THE SHERIFF'S SCHEDULE FOR NEXT TUESDAY  
5    AND ALSO SOMEONE ELSE IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY. THE D.A. IS  
6    SCHEDULED FOR NEXT TUESDAY. AND C.A.O. AND COUNTY COUNSEL ON  
7    RISK MANAGEMENT, SO THAT ANYONE WHO DOES NOT HAVE AN  
8    OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK, WE MAY HAVE TO PUT SOME OVER TO NEXT  
9    TUESDAY, BUT WE'LL TRY TO DO IS -- GET THROUGH THE WHOLE  
10   ENTIRE LIST. THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN.

11

12   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** MADAM CHAIR, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD,  
13   I'M GOING TO ASK GORDON STEFENHAGEN, THE CHAIR OF OUR LIBRARY  
14   COMMISSION TO BEGIN.

15

16   **GORDON STEFENHAGEN:** THANK YOU, MARGARET. GOOD MORNING, MADAM  
17   CHAIR, AND HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. MY NAME'S GORDON  
18   STEFENHAGEN. I CURRENTLY SERVE AS CHAIRPERSON OF YOUR LIBRARY  
19   COMMISSION, AND I'M ALSO A CITY COUNCILMAN WITH CITY OF  
20   NORWALK. I'M HERE TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF COUNTY  
21   PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN ALL OUR COMMUNITIES AND TO URGE YOU TO  
22   FIND A WAY TO SUPPORT THESE LIBRARIES, EVEN IN THESE DIFFICULT  
23   FINANCIAL TIMES. THE COMMISSION MEMBERS AND I ARE VERY  
24   GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT THAT THE BOARD HAS  
25   PROVIDED TO OUR LIBRARIES. YOUR ASSISTANCE OF \$7 MILLION LAST



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1 YEAR HELPED TO KEEP ALL OUR LIBRARIES OPEN AND FUNCTIONING AND  
2 THOSE FUNDS ARE NEEDED AGAIN THIS YEAR. LET ME JUST RELATE TO  
3 WHAT I KNOW BEST, AND THAT'S THE CITY OF NORWALK. WE HAVE A  
4 LARGE REGIONAL LIBRARY AND A SMALLER COMMUNITY LIBRARY THAT  
5 SERVES THE SOUTH END OF OUR TOWN WHICH IS PRIMARILY HISPANIC,  
6 AND WE DRAW A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT OF ARTESIA AND PARTS OF  
7 CERRITOS ALSO BECAUSE IT'S SO CONVENIENT. THE REGIONAL LIBRARY  
8 SERVES OUR CITY AS WELL AS MANY SURROUNDING AREAS WITH A  
9 LARGER COLLECTION AND MORE OPEN HOURS. CUTS TO LIBRARIES SUCH  
10 AS NORWALK WOULD NOT ONLY IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY, BUT MANY  
11 NEIGHBORING RESIDENTS AS WELL, AND I MIGHT ADD THAT THE  
12 REGIONAL LIBRARY IS VERY WELL USED BY TWO LOCAL COMMUNITY  
13 COLLEGES, WHICH WOULD BE CERRITOS AND RIO HONDO. WE GET AN  
14 AWFUL LOT OF COLLEGE KIDS COME IN AND USE THE RESOURCES. OUR  
15 COMMUNITY LIBRARY SERVES AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION OF BEING A  
16 PLACE FOR STUDENTS TO GO AFTER SCHOOL FOR ASSISTANCE WITH  
17 HOMEWORK AND FOR FREE ACCESS TO COMPUTERS, A PLACE FOR STORY  
18 TIMES AND READING PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN AND PLACES WHERE  
19 LEARNING AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT REACH ALL AGES. THE COUNTY  
20 LIBRARY IS ALSO IN GREAT NEED OF A MORE STABLE BOOK BUDGET.  
21 WHILE OUR FRIENDS GROUPS DO A GREAT JOB WITH BOOK SALES AND  
22 DONATIONS, THEY CAN'T PROVIDE THE FUNDS NEEDED FOR A LIBRARY  
23 SYSTEM OUR SIZE. OUR PRIORITY FOR YOUR BOARD IS DEFINITELY  
24 OPEN HOURS, BUT SHOULD THE STATE BUDGET CUT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
25 FOUNDATION GRANTS, OR AS KNOWN AS P.L.F., WE'LL NEED TO LOOK



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1 TO YOU FOR ASSISTANCE WITH BOOKS AND MATERIALS AS WELL. I  
2 CERTAINLY KNOW THAT YOU ARE FACING DIFFICULT CHOICES THIS  
3 TOUGH BUDGET YEAR. THE RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT OF FUNDS THAT  
4 KEEP COUNTY LIBRARIES OPEN HAVE GREAT BENEFIT FOR ALL OUR  
5 COMMUNITIES. THESE DOLLARS GO A LONG WAY TO KEEPING ESSENTIAL  
6 COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNCTIONING AND OPEN. WE'D GREATLY ASK FOR  
7 YOUR SUPPORT AGAIN THIS YEAR, AND I'D JUST LIKE TO COMMENT,  
8 MADAM CHAIR, THAT THE LIBRARY COMMISSION IS VERY ACTIVE IN  
9 TRYING TO COME UP WITH SOME OPTIONS TO PRESENT TO THE BOARD  
10 FOR SOME TYPE OF PERMANENT FINANCING FOR OUR LIBRARIES. I  
11 DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT'LL BE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE OPTIONS WILL  
12 BE, BUT WE ARE WORKING ON THIS AS A COMMISSION WITH MARGARET  
13 TODD AND ALL HER STAFF HELPING US ALSO. IT -- AS LONG AS I'VE  
14 BEEN ON THE COMMISSION AND AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN ON THE CITY  
15 COUNCIL OF NORWALK, IT'S ALWAYS EVERY YEAR WE GOT SOME TYPE OF  
16 PROBLEM WITH THE LIBRARIES, AND IT'S ALWAYS DOLLARS. SO I'M  
17 HOPING THAT WE COME UP WITH SOMETHING THAT IS VIABLE AND WE  
18 DON'T HAVE TO BE HERE EVERY YEAR ASKING FOR MORE AND MORE  
19 MONEY, SO THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I APPRECIATE IT.

20

21 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** MY NAME IS MARGARET DONELLAN TODD,  
22 I'M THE COUNTY LIBRARIAN. THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES  
23 THAT THIS YEAR THE BOARD FACES MANY SERIOUS BUDGET ISSUES AND  
24 THAT THE LIBRARY IS ONE OF NUMEROUS DEPARTMENTS FACING  
25 REDUCTIONS. THE BOARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN COMMITTED TO PUBLIC



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1 LIBRARIES AND THE BOARD HAS BEEN GENEROUS IN ITS FINANCIAL  
2 SUPPORT OVER THE PAST YEARS. WHILE MY BUDGET PROPOSAL REQUESTS  
3 THE CONTINUATION OF \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND CONTRIBUTION  
4 IN THIS DIFFICULT BUDGET YEAR WE WILL BE APPRECIATIVE OF  
5 WHATEVER SUPPORT THE BOARD CAN PROVIDE. HOWEVER, IF THE  
6 LIBRARY DEPARTMENT DOES NOT RECEIVE THE CONTINUATION OF THE  
7 \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND, THE DEPARTMENT WILL NEED TO  
8 CURTAIL SERVICE. LAST YEAR, THE C.A.O. AND THE LIBRARY  
9 PRESENTED INFORMATION TO THE BOARD IDENTIFYING A STRUCTURAL  
10 DEFICIT IN THE LIBRARY BUDGET, WITHOUT THE CONTINUATION OF THE  
11 \$7.3 MILLION IN GENERAL FUND SUPPORT, THAT DEFICIT WILL STILL  
12 EXIST. AS THE BOARD IS WELL AWARE, STATE ACTION IN THE EARLY  
13 '90S, KNOWN AS THE E.R.A.F. SHIFT, RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF 50%  
14 OF THE COUNTY LIBRARY IS FUNDING. AT THAT TIME, THE LIBRARY  
15 SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED AND ELIMINATED SERVICE. THE LIBRARY  
16 STILL HAS NO PERIPHERAL PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT CAN BE  
17 EASILY ELIMINATED IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE BUDGET BY \$7.3  
18 MILLION. FURTHER, THERE ARE NO RESERVES FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS  
19 THAT CAN BE TAPPED. AS A RESULT, THE ONLY CUTS LEFT TO MAKE  
20 ARE TO BASIC SERVICES. IN ADDITION, ALTHOUGH PROPOSED STATE  
21 REDUCTIONS ARE NOT REFLECTED IN THE COUNTY'S BUDGET AT THIS  
22 TIME, THE GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED TO REDUCE OUR PUBLIC LIBRARY  
23 FUND, THE P.L.F. MONEY, BY \$1.6 MILLION. IF THE STATE DECIDES  
24 TO ELIMINATE ALL P.L.F. FUNDING, THAT WILL RESULT IN \$3.2  
25 MILLION REDUCTION. NOW, WHILE IT SEEMS UNLIKELY AT THIS POINT





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1 THAT ALL THE P.L.F. FUNDING WILL BE ELIMINATED, THE LOSS OF  
2 \$1.6 MILLION IS PROBABLE. CURRENTLY P.L.F. REVENUE IS USED TO  
3 FUND THE MATERIALS BUDGET. THE MATERIALS BUDGET IS \$4 MILLION,  
4 A \$1.6 MILLION CUT WILL LEAVE ONLY 2.4. USING STANDARD  
5 GUIDELINES FOR URBAN LIBRARIES, LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHOULD HAVE  
6 A MATERIALS BUDGET OF AT LEAST \$12 MILLION. I CANNOT SAY THAT  
7 THIS CURTAILMENT RECOMMENDATION I PRESENT TO YOU IS A GOOD  
8 PLAN. WHEN YOU CUT BASIC SERVICE, THERE ARE NO GOOD CUTS. I  
9 BELIEVE THIS PLAN IS REASONABLE AND BALANCED. THE COUNTY  
10 LIBRARY IS PROPOSING TO CLOSE 15 LIBRARIES, ONE BOOK -- ONE  
11 BOOK MOBILE, AND REDUCE HOURS AT ALL REMAINING FACILITIES. I  
12 HAVE INCLUDED DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING OUR PROPOSAL IN  
13 MY REPORT TO THE BOARD, WHICH I BELIEVE YOU NOW HAVE. MY  
14 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SERVICE REDUCTIONS ARE BASED FIRST ON  
15 STEWARDSHIP. WHILE RESTRUCTURING LIBRARY SERVICE LEVELS, WE  
16 MUST LOOK NOT JUST TO THE IMMEDIATE CRISIS, BUT ALSO TO THE  
17 FUTURE WELL BEING OF THE LIBRARY. WE MUST ENSURE THAT THE CORE  
18 INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE LIBRARY IS NOT SO SERIOUSLY DAMAGED THAT  
19 THE COUNTY LIBRARY CAN NEVER RECOVER. IN AN EFFORT TO BALANCE  
20 THIS PROPOSAL, WE HAVE SPREAD CLOSURES ACROSS DISTRICTS BASED  
21 ON THE NUMBER OF LIBRARIES IN EACH DISTRICT. WE HAVE ALSO  
22 CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF FACTORS: SIZE OF THE LIBRARY, USE  
23 STATISTICS, AND THE DISTANCE FROM OTHER COUNTY LIBRARIES. OUR  
24 CURTAILMENTS WERE DETERMINED PRIMARILY BY THE SIZE AND USE OF  
25 EACH FACILITY. IN ADDITION, THOSE COMMUNITIES THAT PARTICIPATE



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1 IN SPECIAL TAX HAVE RECEIVED AUGMENTED SERVICE IN THE FORM OF  
2 ADDITIONAL HOURS OR AN ADDITIONAL DAY OF SERVICE. AS I HAVE  
3 PREVIOUSLY STATED, THERE IS NO GOOD WAY TO CUT LIBRARY  
4 SERVICE. I'D BE HAPPY TO DEVELOP ANY OTHER OPTIONS OR PLANS  
5 THAT THE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO SEE PRESENTED.

6

7 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ARE THERE QUESTIONS?

8

9 **SUP. KNABE:** NO, MADAM CHAIR. I JUST HAVE ONE. I UNDERSTAND THE  
10 DIFFICULTY THAT YOU'RE CONFRONTED WITH AND OBVIOUSLY THE  
11 IMPACT ON OUR DISTRICTS. IT'S THE ONE THAT IS THE BOOK MOBILE.  
12 WOULD NOT THE BOOK MOBILE, IF NOT UTILIZED, WOULDN'T THAT BE A  
13 -- AN ASSISTANCE TO BE ABLE TO SOME OF THESE AREAS WHERE  
14 YOU'RE REALLY STRETCHING OUT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN LIBRARIES,  
15 WOULDN'T THE BOOK MOBILE BE A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP THAT UP  
16 AND OPERATING, MAYBE NOT NECESSARILY IN THE SAME AREA, BUT IN  
17 SOME OF THESE OTHER AREAS THAT ARE IMPACTED SO SEVERELY?

18

19 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WELL IT'D CERTAINLY BE TRUE  
20 SUPERVISOR THAT WE WOULD END UP WITH A BOOK MOBILE SITTING  
21 IDLE. IT COSTS -- IT DOES COST MONEY THOUGH TO RUN A BOOK  
22 MOBILE, AND WE WOULD HAVE TO LOOK TO SEE IF WE COULD GET  
23 SUFFICIENT DOLLARS TOGETHER TO MAKE USE OF THAT.

24



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1   **SUP. KNABE:** WELL I'M THINKING WHAT I'D LIKE FOR YOU TO DO IS  
2   AT LEAST LOOK WHAT THE COST OF OPERATION IS, BECAUSE IF WE'VE  
3   PAID FOR THE BOOK MOBILE -- I MEAN, ABOUT THE ONLY THING  
4   YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IS GAS.

5

6   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** AND STAFF TIME.

7

8   **SUP. KNABE:** AND STAFF TIME, BUT I THINK THAT --

9

10   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WE'D BE HAPPY TO DO THAT.

11

12   **SUP. KNABE:** I'D SURE HATE TO SEE A BOOK MOBILE SITTING IDLE IN  
13   THESE TIMES IF WE HAVE TO -- I MEAN, GRANTED, THIS IS ONLY A  
14   PLAN AND WE'LL TRY TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO RESOLVE SOME OF  
15   THE ISSUES, BUT IF NOT, I'D CERTAINLY HATE TO SEE A BOOK  
16   MOBILE SITTING IDLE.

17

18   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WE CAN DEVELOP THAT INFORMATION.

19

20   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** OKAY THANK YOU.

21

22   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I WOULD JUST LIKE TO GET A CLARIFICATION IN  
23   TERMS OF THE AMOUNT OF PROPERTY TAX THAT SOME OF THESE CITIES  
24   GIVE TOWARDS LIBRARIES. SOME OF THE CITIES MAKE -- OBVIOUSLY  
25   SOME OF THE CITIES HAVE ASSESSMENTS.



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1

2 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** RIGHT THAT'S CORRECT.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** AND OTHERS, THEIR CONTRIBUTION JUST IS  
5 THROUGH THEIR TAX. IS THAT IT?

6

7 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** CORRECT. AND ALSO SUPERVISOR, SOME  
8 OF OUR CITIES DO PROVIDE SOME MONEY FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICE, WE  
9 HAVE A FEW THAT PROVIDE FOR BOOKS AND MATERIALS, SOME THAT  
10 GIVE US SOME ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR HOURS.

11

12 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I SEE. AND I WAS LOOKING AT ONE PARTICULAR  
13 LIBRARY, WHERE 84% OF THE COST OF THAT LIBRARY COMES FROM THE  
14 PROPERTY TAX OF THE PEOPLE IN THAT AREA.

15

16 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** YES. WE HAVE -- IT'S A MIX, WE HAVE  
17 -- IF WE LOOK SOLELY AT THE PROPERTY TAX PIECE, EVERY  
18 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTES A DIFFERENT AMOUNT BASED ON THE  
19 VALUATION OF THEIR PROPERTY. SO WE CERTAINLY DO HAVE SOME  
20 CITIES THAT ARE CONTRIBUTING MORE TOWARD THE OPERATION OF  
21 THEIR LIBRARY THAN OTHERS.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** BECAUSE I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE REALLY A  
24 VERY SENSITIVE THING FOR THOSE CITIES THAT -- FOR INSTANCE, IF  
25 A CITY IS CONTRIBUTING 84% OF THEIR TAX TOWARD THE LIBRARY,



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1 THEN SAY, "OKAY, WE'RE CLOSING THAT LIBRARY," IT WOULD SEEM  
2 THAT THEY'RE -- IF THEY ARE NOT PART OF THE ASSESSMENT, IF  
3 THEY JOIN IN THE ASSESSMENT, COULD THEY MAKE UP THE DIFFERENCE  
4 IN THAT?

5

6 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** IF THEY ARE PART OF THE SPECIAL TAX  
7 --

8

9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THE -- IF THEY JOIN IN THE SPECIAL TAX --  
10

11 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** WHICH IS CALCULATED BASED ON PARCEL,  
12 THEY ARE RECEIVING AUGMENTED SERVICE. WE BASICALLY GET OUR  
13 CALCULATIONS, EXCUSE ME, BY LOOKING AT -- DOING A BASE AND  
14 THEN SAYING, "OKAY, THESE PARTICULAR LIBRARIES RECEIVE AN  
15 EXTRA DAY OF SERVICE OR ADDITIONAL HOURS" SO THAT THEY ARE  
16 GETTING THEIR SPECIAL TAX VALUE.

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT IF -- A SPECIAL  
19 TAX, DOES THAT COVER 16% OF THE COST OF THE LIBRARY?

20

21 **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** IT WOULD VARY FROM EACH COMMUNITY  
22 BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF PARCELS IN EACH COMMUNITY IS DIFFERENT.  
23 I WOULD SAY OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, PROBABLY NOT, IT'S  
24 PROBABLY LESS.

25





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1    **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IT'S ABOUT WHAT AMOUNT?

2

3    **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** I WOULDN'T KNOW, SUPERVISOR. I WOULD  
4    NEED TO GET YOU THAT INFORMATION.

5

6    **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO LOOK AT  
7    SOME OF THESE WHERE THE PROPERTY TAX IS BEING PAID FOR, A  
8    LARGE PERCENTAGE OF IT TO THEN SAY TO THEM "OKAY, YOU'RE GOING  
9    TO CONTINUE TO PAY THAT TO THE LIBRARY BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO  
10    HAVE YOUR LIBRARY," IS A VERY STRANGE THING TO SAY. I THINK  
11    THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN SOME OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP THAT 16% SOME  
12    WAY BY ASSESSMENT OR SOMETHING ELSE AND THAT THAT SHOULD BE  
13    PLACED BEFORE THEM, RATHER THAN SUMMARILY CLOSING A LIBRARY IF  
14    THEY IN FACT ARE ALREADY PAYING TAX THAT CAN -- THAT ALMOST  
15    COVERS THE COST OF THE LIBRARY.

16

17    **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** AND SUPERVISOR, WE WILL ALSO WORK  
18    WITH EACH CITY TO ALSO ASK THEM FOR THOSE THAT AREN'T  
19    CURRENTLY ON THE SPECIAL TAX IF THEY'D LIKE TO JOIN, IF NOT,  
20    WOULD THEY BE WILLING TO CONTRACT WITH US TO PROVIDE US FUNDS  
21    FOR SOME ADDITIONAL SERVICE. SO WE'LL ALSO WORK WITH CITIES IN  
22    THAT WAY AS WELL.

23



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1   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. OKAY. ARE THERE OTHER QUESTIONS?  
2   BEFORE -- SUPERVISOR MOLINA, DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OF THE  
3   LIBRARY AND? ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

4

5   **MARGARET TODD, LIBRARIAN:** THANK YOU SUPERVISOR.

6

7   **SUP. KNABE:** THANK YOU.

8

9   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DAVID SANDERS, DR. SANDERS, DIRECTOR OF  
10   CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES. ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

11

12   **DR. DAVID SANDERS, DIR., D.C.F.S.:** GOOD MORNING. THANK YOU.  
13   WE'RE GOING TO SPEAK SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE ALTERNATIVE USES  
14   OF MACLAREN, AND I'M GOING TO HAVE JOHN OPPENHEIM, THE CHIEF  
15   DEPUTY, SPEAK ABOUT SOME OF THE DETAIL, BUT JUST VERY BROADLY,  
16   THERE ARE TWO AREAS THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT USING THE SAVINGS  
17   FROM MACLAREN IN: ONE IS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS FOR  
18   HARD-TO-PLACE CHILDREN, AND THE SECOND IS TO PUT THE  
19   COMPONENTS OF A BETTER-FUNCTIONING PLACEMENT PROCESS IN PLACE,  
20   AND SO THE ITEMS THAT WE'VE IDENTIFIED ARE ALL TOWARDS THAT  
21   PURPOSE, AND I'LL HAVE MR. OPPENHEIM TALK ABOUT THE DETAIL.

22

23   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** YEAH, THANK YOU, GOOD MORNING. AND WE I THINK  
24   GAINED A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE PROCESS OF EXAMINING EACH  
25   CHILD THAT CAME INTO MACLAREN DURING THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT



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1 WE WERE MOVING TO TAKE IT OFF-LINE AND FOR EACH CHILD THAT  
2 HAVE TO -- AND ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE FOUND WAS A GAP IN  
3 OUR SERVICE CAPACITY AFTER THE CLOSURE OF MACLAREN, WAS TO  
4 FIND A RIGHT APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT FOR ALL CHILDREN. THERE ARE  
5 TIMES GIVING -- GIVEN THEIR NEEDS THAT IT MAY TAKE SEVERAL  
6 HOURS TO CONTACT, MAKE ARRANGEMENTS, BACKGROUND CLEAR,  
7 RELATIVES, WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE, AND THAT WE NEED  
8 DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY COMFORTABLE CHILD-FRIENDLY  
9 LOCATIONS THAT CAN SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE CHILD ON A LESS-  
10 THAN-24-HOUR BASIS AND PROVIDE A PLACE FOR THE SOCIAL WORKER  
11 TO ACCESS THE INFORMATION THROUGH TELEPHONE AND COMPUTER TO  
12 SELECT AND CLEAR AN APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT. SO WE'VE GOT A  
13 SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF MONEY, \$4.2 MILLION, OF RESERVE TO OPEN  
14 AT LEAST THREE FAMILY RESOURCE RECEPTION CENTERS. WE WILL ALSO  
15 USE THEM AS MULTI-PURPOSE CENTERS TO DO SUPERVISED VISITATION  
16 BETWEEN PARENT AND CHILD AND TO DO FAMILY GROUP DECISION  
17 MAKING CONFERENCES. ULTIMATELY WE HOPE TO HAVE A FAMILY  
18 RECEPTION CENTER IN EVERY SERVICE-PLANNING AREA THROUGHOUT THE  
19 COUNTY. ALSO, WE FOUND THAT, AS PART OF THE PROCESS, THAT  
20 WORKING WITH OTHER CARE GIVERS, PARTICULARLY GROUP HOMES WHO  
21 HAVE BY CONTRACT THE ABILITY TO GIVE A 7-DAY NOTICE TO  
22 INDICATE THAT THEY WANT TO TERMINATE THE RELATIONSHIP WITH  
23 SERVICE TO THE CHILD, THOSE WERE CHILDREN THAT FREQUENTLY CAME  
24 BACK INTO MACLAREN. WHAT OUR PERMANENCY TEAMS DO AND MULTI-  
25 DISCIPLINARY TEAMS IS GO OUT AND MEET WITH THE CARE GIVER, THE



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1 CHILD, BRING FAMILY MEMBERS IN, IF AVAILABLE AND APPROPRIATE,  
2 AND TRY TO BOTH STABILIZE THAT PLACEMENT, AT THE SAME TIME  
3 MAKING A MUCH BETTER PERMANENCY PLAN FOR THE CHILD. SO THAT'S  
4 THE PERMANENCY TEAMS WOULD ADD ABOUT 21 STAFF AND COST ABOUT  
5 \$1.1 MILLION, AND AGAIN, WE'D HAVE A PERMANENCY TEAM THAT  
6 WOULD BE ABLE TO DO THIS PROCESS IN EVERY SERVICE PLANNING  
7 AREA. WE HAVE A MEDICAL DIRECTOR COORDINATOR, WE'RE FINDING  
8 THAT WE REALLY NEED A CAPACITY TO PROVIDE OVERSIGHT, DO BETTER  
9 PLANNING AND COORDINATION OF THE HEALTH AND PSYCHIATRIC  
10 SERVICE NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN. TEAM DECISION MAKING IS AT THE  
11 POINT WHERE A CHILD FIRST COMES INTO THE SYSTEM TRYING TO VERY  
12 QUICKLY, WITHIN 48 TO 72 HOURS, ASSEMBLE A TEAM THAT WOULD  
13 INCLUDE A WORKER WHO MADE THE ASSESSMENT AND DECISION THAT THE  
14 CHILD NEEDED TO BE REMOVED FOR THEIR OWN PROTECTION. THE  
15 WORKER WHO WOULD BE PROVIDING ONGOING SERVICES TO THE FAMILY  
16 AND FAMILY MEMBERS, TO SEE IF WE COULD COME UP WITH AN  
17 IMMEDIATE VIABLE ALTERNATIVE PLAN TO THE PLACEMENT OF THE  
18 CHILD IN STRANGER CARE. FAMILY GROUP DECISION MAKING, AGAIN,  
19 IS, I THINK, AN EXTRAORDINARY TOOL THAT REALLY BRINGS EXTENDED  
20 FAMILY MEMBERS TOGETHER TO ASSIST IN PLANNING FOR THE CARE AND  
21 SUPERVISION OF THE CHILD. IT COULD BE USED AT A POINT WHERE  
22 MAYBE A CHILD WAS WITH A GRANDMOTHER AND AS THE GRANDMOTHER  
23 GETS OLDER AND BECOMES INCAPABLE OR UNABLE TO CARE FOR THE  
24 CHILD, ASSEMBLING THE EXTENDED FAMILY TO HELP US PLAN FOR THE  
25 ONGOING CARE AND SUPERVISION NEEDS OF THE CHILD. IT CREATES A



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1 LOT OF STABILITY, IS VERY EMPOWERING AND MOBILIZING TO BRING  
2 THE FAMILY TOGETHER TO ASSIST WITH THAT PROCESS. OUR PERMANENT  
3 -- OUR TRIAGE TEAMS ARE, AGAIN, TEAMS THAT WILL HELP US LOOK  
4 AT AND MAKE BETTER DECISIONS REGARDING CHILD SAFETY,  
5 PARTICULARLY IN SITUATIONS WHERE THERE ARE COMPLEX ISSUES OR  
6 NUMEROUS PRIOR REFERRALS. OUR PUBLIC WRAP-AROUND PROGRAM IS A  
7 COMPONENT OF THE PROGRAM THAT ENSURES THAT WE CAN PROVIDE THE  
8 FULL RANGE OF WRAP-AROUND SERVICES TO THOSE CHILDREN WHO ARE,  
9 BECAUSE OF THE EXPERIMENTAL CONTROL, DESIGN IN THE FEDERAL  
10 WAIVER, ARE IN A CONTROL GROUP BUT NEED THE SERVICES ANYWAY IN  
11 ORDER TO GET THE FULL BENEFIT OF THE PROGRAM, AND I THINK FIND  
12 PLACEMENT COMPONENTS THAT WOULD BE A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO  
13 PLACEMENT IN THE FACILITY LIKE MACLAREN HOME. OUR WRAP-AROUND  
14 INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION IS REALLY JUST ADDING TWO ADDITIONAL  
15 STAFF, AN ACCOUNTANT III AND A SENIOR PARENT ADVOCATE TO KEEP  
16 THE FOCUS IN WRAP-AROUND ON FAMILY AS A FAMILY CENTERED  
17 PRACTICE, AND AS THE PROGRAM CONTINUES TO GROW, THERE ARE NOW  
18 OVER 350 CHILDREN BEING SERVED IN WRAP-AROUND IN LOS ANGELES  
19 COUNTY, AND BY THE END OF THE BUDGET YEAR, THERE'LL BE OVER  
20 700, SO IT'S JUST THE STAFFING RESOURCES THAT ARE NEEDED TO  
21 PAY FOR THOSE SERVICES. THE GROUP COUNSELOR SUPERVISORS ARE  
22 BEING USED TO BE ABLE TO RESPOND IMMEDIATELY ON A 24-HOUR, 7-  
23 DAY A WEEK SCHEDULE TO GO INTO FAMILY HOMES OR GROUP HOMES OR  
24 FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY HOMES TO PROVIDE ONE-ON-ONE SUPERVISION  
25 TO STABILIZE A CHILD AND PREVENT THE NEED FOR THAT CHILD'S





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1 PLACEMENT TO BE DISRUPTED, IMPACTING THEIR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE  
2 AND PERFORMANCE AND WE ARE FINDING, WITH THE 20 WORKERS THAT  
3 WE'RE USING CURRENTLY WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN AT MAC, THAT IT  
4 IS A VERY POSITIVE AND ACHIEVING GOOD RESULTS IN STABILIZING  
5 THE UNAVOIDABLE COSTS OF MACLAREN ARE BASICALLY JUST THOSE  
6 THINGS THAT ARE NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE PHYSICAL PLANT AND  
7 GROUNDS SO THAT IT DOESN'T DETERIORATE IN VALUE. THOSE  
8 ACTIVITIES AND ITEMS THAT I SPOKE TO ARE ABOUT \$8.6 MILLION  
9 AND ARE IN THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF OTHER  
10 ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES THAT WE THINK MAY BE NECESSARY BUT  
11 AREN'T RIGHT NOW IN A POSITION TO QUANTIFY THEM, SO IN OUR  
12 CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, WE'VE  
13 REACHED AGREEMENT TO PUT THEM INTO A PROVISIONAL FINANCING  
14 USES FUND, AND AS WE GET MORE DEFINITIVE WITH OUR NEEDS IN  
15 TERMS OF COST, THEN WE WILL WORK WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
16 OFFICE TO HAVE THOSE FUNDS RELEASED FOR THEIR SPECIFIC  
17 PURPOSES. I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS.

18

19 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** QUESTIONS?

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IN SOME OF THE MANAGERIAL REFORMS THAT YOU'RE  
22 GOING TO IMPLEMENT IN THE ADOPTIONS AREA, IS THAT GOING TO BE  
23 COST REVENUE NEUTRAL, OR WILL THAT BE -- WILL THEY BE SAVINGS  
24 GENERATED WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER --

25



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1   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I THINK IT SHOULD BE REVENUE NEUTRAL. ACTUALLY  
2   OUR GOAL IS TO SUCCESSFULLY REDUCE THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY  
3   IN OUT OF HOME CARE WHICH WOULD PRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL SAVINGS  
4   THAT COULD BE REINVESTED IN THOSE MANAGERIAL IMPROVEMENTS, BUT  
5   SHOULDN'T REQUIRE ACCESSING ANY OF THESE FUNDS.

6

7   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR KNABE.

8

9   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** IS THERE A PLAN FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO  
10   THE ADOPTIONS AREA?

11

12   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO WITH THE ADOPTIONS IS  
13   TAKE A VERY CAREFUL LOOK AT HOW THE WORK IS CURRENTLY  
14   DISTRIBUTED AND SEE IF SOME -- SOME REENGINEERING WOULDN'T  
15   ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT AND THEN TO PARTICULARLY FOCUS  
16   ATTENTION ON A MUCH MORE RAPID PROCESS. AND AT THIS POINT, I'M  
17   REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT THE RESOURCES THAT ARE THERE, THEY  
18   JUST NEED TO BE --

19

20   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO THE REFORMS WILL GENERATE -- IT'S REVENUE  
21   NEUTRAL REALLY, THE REFORMS ARE GOING TO GENERATE GREATER  
22   EFFICIENCY AND FASTER TURNAROUND, WITH ACTUALLY LONG-TERM  
23   SAVINGS?

24

25   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THAT'S CORRECT YES.



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1

2 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. KNABE?

5

6 **SUP. KNABE:** BUT WHAT IS THE LIKELIHOOD OF THAT WE'LL CONTINUE  
7 TO RECEIVE FROM THE STATE THOSE TITLE 4-B FUNDS, ABOUT \$9  
8 MILLION FOR MACLAREN?

9

10 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I THINK IT'S REASONABLY POSITIVE THAT WE'LL  
11 RETAIN SOME IF NOT ALL. I'VE HAD SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH  
12 RITA SAENZ, THE DIRECTOR OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF  
13 SOCIAL SERVICES. SHE CERTAINLY APPRECIATES THE EFFORT AND THE  
14 FINANCIAL CHALLENGE TO BRING MACLAREN OFF-LINE. I WROTE HER A  
15 LETTER LAST WEEK ITEMIZING SOME OF OUR NEEDS FOR THAT MONEY  
16 RELATED TO ALTERNATIVES TO THE USE OF MACLAREN AND SHE SEEMED  
17 TO BE QUITE RECEPTIVE, BUT THAT'S -- THAT IS SHORT OF "THE  
18 CHECK IS IN THE MAIL," BUT I THINK THAT THINGS ARE WORKING  
19 REASONABLY POSITIVE.

20

21 **SUP. KNABE:** WHAT ABOUT THE REMAINING 9 AND A HALF MILLION  
22 DOLLARS IN NET COUNTY COSTS FROM MACLAREN THAT WAS IN THE  
23 BUDGET? I MEAN, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR THAT? I MEAN --

24



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1   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WELL I THINK THAT IT WILL BE REQUIRED, WE'VE  
2   BEEN WORKING WITH H.C.A.-- H.S.A., THE SERVICE ASSOCIATION ON  
3   BRINGING UP SHORT-TERM INTENSIVE STABILIZATION PROGRAMS THAT -  
4   - FROM ONE TO 14 DAYS THAT WOULD AVOID HOSPITALIZATION OF KIDS  
5   IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS AND THAT WILL LIKELY REQUIRE SOME --  
6   SOME COUNTY PATCH FUNDING IN ORDER TO MAKE THAT VIABLE OVER  
7   AND ABOVE THE GROUP HOME RATE AND -- AND ELIGIBLE MENTAL  
8   HEALTH SERVICES THAT WOULD GO IN. AS I SAID, WE'VE GOT FUNDING  
9   CURRENTLY IN THE BUDGET TO OPEN AT LEAST THE FIRST THREE  
10   RECEPTION VISITATION CENTERS. OUR GOAL IS TO OPEN AN  
11   ADDITIONAL FIVE SO THAT THERE'S ONE IN EVERY SERVICE PLANNING  
12   AREA. THAT WOULD BE WORKING WITH SOME PROVIDERS TO RETAIN SOME  
13   BEDS AT THE VARIOUS GROUP HOME LEVELS, PARTICULARLY FOR THE  
14   MOST DIFFICULT TO PLACE OLDER TEENS, TO ENSURE THERE ARE  
15   RESOURCES AVAILABLE. AND THEN WANT TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL  
16   FOSTER HOMES WHERE IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER FOR THE CHILD TO BE  
17   IN A FAMILY ENVIRONMENT BUT WOULD REQUIRE SOME VERY INTENSIVE  
18   SERVICES AND UNDER THE STATE IS CURRENT SYSTEM, THAT CAPACITY  
19   DOESN'T EXIST. WE'D PLAN TO WORK WITH THE STATE TO DEVELOP  
20   THAT CAPACITY AND TEST THE MERITS OF THAT APPROACH. THOSE ARE  
21   JUST A FEW THINGS. THE OTHER THING WE'VE FOUND THAT -- THAT  
22   ABOUT 20% OF THE CHILDREN THAT LEFT MACLAREN OVER THAT SIX  
23   MONTH PERIOD, 20% OF THEM WE WERE ABLE TO FIND RELATIVES, A  
24   NUMBER OF THEM IN THE AREA, SO WE'D WANT TO PUT TOGETHER A  
25   DILIGENT SEARCH UNIT THAT CAN LOOK FOR THOSE RELATIVES AT THE



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1 BEGINNING OF THE CASE RATHER THAN WAITING LIKE WE DID IN THIS  
2 CASE TO THE END, SO -- AND THEN I THINK CONTINUING TO PROVIDE  
3 BETTER SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR OUR FAMILY PROVIDERS' RELATIVES AS  
4 WELL AS NON-RELATIVES, AGAIN TO STABILIZE AND MAKE MORE  
5 PERMANENT THESE KIND OF RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES.

6

7 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY. I ALSO NOTICE THAT MACLAREN EMPLOYEES WENT  
8 TO ADMINISTRATION. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO DO WITH THOSE OR WHO  
9 ARE THEY OR WHAT POSITIONS WERE THEY OR?

10

11 **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THEY WERE IN COMPARABLE POSITIONS THAT WERE  
12 VACANCIES IN THE DEPARTMENT THAT WE PROBABLY WOULD'VE, A  
13 NUMBER OF THEM, KEPT VACANT BECAUSE OF THE FREEZE SITUATION,  
14 BUT BECAUSE THEY WERE AVAILABLE AND VACANT, WE WERE ABLE TO  
15 SUCCESSFULLY ABSORB ALL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF THAT HAD  
16 BEEN AT MACLAREN.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY. THANK YOU. I'M DONE, MADAM CHAIR.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I'D LIKE TO ASK, FIRST OF ALL, WHAT ARE YOU  
21 -- IF I'M SORRY IF YOU JUST SAID THIS AND I WAS OVER THERE  
22 CONFERRING WITH SUPERVISOR MOLINA, BUT WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO  
23 WITH MACLAREN? HAVE YOU MADE ANY PLANS?

24





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1   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** WE HAVE NOT MADE ANY PLANS. IN TALKING WITH  
2   THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, I THINK THEY'VE INDICATED  
3   THAT THAT WOULD BE A TASK THEY WOULD BE WORKING ON.

4

5   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** I SEE. WHEN DO WE EXPECT TO HAVE SOME IDEA  
6   OF HOW THAT IS PROCEEDING?

7

8   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** I CAN'T ANSWER THAT.

9

10   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT WELL WE'LL FIND OUT. ARE THERE  
11   OTHER QUESTIONS? IF NOT, WE'LL GO ON. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

12

13   **JOHN OPPENHEIM:** THANK YOU.

14

15   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** SUPERVISOR KNABE IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE OVER  
16   MENTAL HEALTH. RIGHT?

17

18   **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY, WE'LL -- WE'LL PROCEED, THEN, WITH MENTAL  
19   HEALTH. CALL DR. SOUTHARD UP, PLEASE. ALSO BE JOINED BY BRUCE  
20   SALTZER AND DR. KITA CURRY, AND DR. SUSAN MANDEL, ARE HERE.

21

22   **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR. D.M.H.:** SUPERVISOR KNABE, MEMBERS OF  
23   THE BOARD, I ALSO HAVE WITH ME GURABUNDA SING CALZER, WHO'S  
24   THE FINANCE DIRECTOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT IN CASE THERE ARE ANY  
25   QUESTIONS. I THOUGHT WE WOULD PROCEED BY TALKING ABOUT THREE



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1 ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN OF CONCERN TO YOUR BOARD IN BRIEF  
2 OUTLINE, AND THEN IF THERE ARE QUESTIONS ON THOSE MATTERS,  
3 WE'RE PREPARED TO ANSWER THOSE. THE FIRST OF THE ISSUES THAT I  
4 WOULD BRING UP IS THE 3632 PROGRAM WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, IS THE  
5 PROGRAM FOR SB-90 PROGRAM FOR SEVERELY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED  
6 CHILDREN TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR EDUCATION THAT THE STATE  
7 HAS DEFERRED PAYMENT FOR OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS. WE HAVE  
8 BEEN WORKING DILIGENTLY IN COORDINATION WITH THE C.A.O. AND  
9 C.S.A.C. AT TRYING TO LOOK AT A SOLUTION FOR THAT PROBLEM.  
10 CURRENTLY IT APPEARS THAT THERE MAY BE A SOLUTION THAT IS  
11 DEVELOPING THAT WOULD INVOLVE EDUCATION, TAKING A LARGER ROLE  
12 IN FUNDING OF THAT PROGRAM. LOCALLY, THE MAIN ISSUE REGARDING  
13 3632 IS THAT OUR CONTRACT AGENCIES HAVE BEEN -- NOT BEEN FULLY  
14 REIMBURSED FOR THE SERVICES THAT THEY HAVE PROVIDED. YOUR  
15 BOARD AND THE C.A.O. HAVE, IN THIS FISCAL YEAR AND IN THE  
16 BUDGET YEAR, PROPOSED TO PROVIDE 20.3 MILLION OR SO OF COUNTY  
17 GENERAL FUND TO BE ADVANCED IN THE DIRECTION OF PAYING FOR  
18 3632 SERVICES. IN THIS FISCAL YEAR, WE HAVE TAPPED OTHER  
19 SOURCES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE REIMBURSEMENT TO CONTRACTORS SO  
20 THAT THEY HAVE BEEN OR WILL BE REIMBURSED ABOUT 80% OF THE  
21 EXPENDITURES THEY HAD ON THE PROGRAM IN LAST BUDGET YEAR. SO  
22 WE HAVE NOT SOLVED THE PROBLEM, OBVIOUSLY, BECAUSE IT'S A MUCH  
23 BIGGER ISSUE IN THE OVERALL DEFERRAL OF PAYMENT FOR SB-90, BUT  
24 WE BELIEVE WE HAVE ALLEVIATED THE PROBLEM FOR THIS YEAR AND WE  
25 MAY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE AGENCIES WITH ADDITIONAL



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1 SUPPORT IN THE NEAR FUTURE BY ALLOCATING UNEXPENDED TOBACCO  
2 SETTLEMENT FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO MENTAL HEALTH.  
3 THE SECOND ITEM I WANTED TO SPEAK TO WAS THE 10-MILLION-DOLLAR  
4 CURTAILMENT. THE BUDGET THAT WE HAVE PROPOSED IS BASED ON A  
5 35.8 MILLION IN ONE-TIME REVENUES AND \$10 MILLION IN PLANNED  
6 REDUCTIONS. THE PLANNED REDUCTION IN SERVICES, THE CORE ISSUE,  
7 I THINK, OF CONCERN TO YOUR BOARD WOULD BE OUR REDUCTION OF  
8 SERVICES TO INDIGENT CHILDREN. THAT REDUCTION IS, PERHAPS  
9 SOUNDS WORSE THAN IT WILL BE BECAUSE OUR STRATEGY THERE IS  
10 THAT WE BELIEVE, OVER TIME, WE WILL BE ABLE TO REPLACE THE  
11 COUNTY GENERAL FUND THAT HAS BEEN SPENT ON TREATMENT OF THE  
12 INDIGENT CHILDREN WITH HEALTHY FAMILIES REVENUES. THE  
13 METHODOLOGY THAT WE EMPLOYED INVOLVED SHIELDING IN-PATIENT  
14 SERVICES, CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES, AND SERVICES FOR  
15 UNDOCUMENTED CHILDREN. WITH THOSE SHIELDED, THEN WE SPREAD THE  
16 CUT OVER OUR CONTRACT AGENCY PARTNERS AND THE DEPARTMENT AND  
17 CAME UP WITH A CURTAILMENT OF ABOUT 5.5 MILLION, OF WHICH 4.8  
18 WAS FROM THE CONTRACT AGENCIES, ABOUT 625 FROM THE DEPARTMENT.  
19 THE REMAINDER OF THE \$10 MILLION CURTAILMENT WAS TAKEN FROM  
20 THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. THE LAST  
21 ISSUE THAT I WILL SPEAK TO IS THE IN-PATIENT SERVICES WITH  
22 AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES. DEPARTMENT  
23 OF HEALTH SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH HAVE BEEN  
24 WORKING AT RESOLVING THE FUNDING ISSUES BETWEEN THOSE TWO  
25 DEPARTMENTS IN A WAY TO ADDRESS THE GOALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF



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1 HEALTH STRATEGIC PLAN. IN THAT PLANNING PROCESS, WE HAVE TAKEN  
2 SOME ACTIONS TO SAVE DOLLARS THAT WOULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO THAT  
3 EFFORT, BUT -- BUT THE MAJOR ISSUE IS THAT WE JOINTLY HAVE  
4 COMMITTED TO MAKING SURE THAT WE CONTINUE TO FIND WAYS OF  
5 PROPERLY FUNDING THE 130 PSYCHIATRIC BEDS WHICH ARE A KEY PART  
6 OF OUR OVERALL SYSTEM OF CARE FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.  
7 WITH THAT, I WILL PAUSE --

8

9 **SUP. KNABE:** ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN I JUST ASK A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT C.H.F.  
12 AND THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR -- IN ORDER TO MEET THE C.H.F.

13

14 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** THE HEALTHY FAMILIES PROGRAM?

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MMM-HMM.

17

18 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** BASICALLY THE PERSON -- THE  
19 FAMILY WOULD NEED TO BE UNDER 300% OF POVERTY AND TO BE --  
20 HAVE A LEGAL RESIDENCY STATUS.

21

22 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DO THEY STILL HAVE TO PAY -- FOR YOUR  
23 SERVICES, DO THEY STILL HAVE TO PAY THAT PREMIUM, THE \$9 A  
24 MONTH, OR IF YOU WAIVE THAT, HOW DOES THAT WORK?

25



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1   **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** WE CANNOT WAIVE THE HEALTHY  
2   FAMILIES PREMIUM. IT BASICALLY IS NOT PAID TO THE DEPARTMENT,  
3   IT'S PAID TO THE PROGRAM AND IT ENTITLES THE CHILDREN IN THAT  
4   FAMILY, NOT JUST TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FROM THE POINT OF  
5   VIEW OF THE FAMILY, IT ALSO QUALIFIES THEM FOR HEALTH SERVICES  
6   AND DENTAL SERVICES, SO IT'S A MUCH BIGGER HELP TO THE  
7   FAMILIES THAN MERELY THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT THEY  
8   WOULD QUALIFY FOR.

9

10   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** BUT YOU CARRY ON SOME OF THE OUTREACH AND  
11   YOU ALSO QUALIFY THEM, THOSE WHO ARE USING YOUR SERVICES. IS  
12   THAT THE WAY YOU DO IT?

13

14   **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** YEAH. THE IDEA WOULD BE THAT  
15   WE BELIEVE THERE ARE A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF FAMILIES THAT  
16   COME TO US FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES THAT CURRENTLY HAVE  
17   BASICALLY A CHOICE BETWEEN FREE SERVICES OR PAYING THE  
18   PREMIUM, AND WE WOULD OFFER THEM THE CHOICE OF PAYING THE  
19   PREMIUM OR NOT RECEIVING THE SERVICES IN THE FUTURE. SO KIND  
20   OF PRESENTING A FORCED CHOICE. IN SOME CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD  
21   HAVE TO, FOR CLINICAL REASON, MAKE EXCEPTIONS TO THAT, BUT  
22   GENERALLY THAT'S THE CHOICE THAT WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE AND  
23   OUR BELIEF IS THAT EVEN THOUGH WE'RE DOING THAT FOR THE  
24   PURPOSES OF DEALING WITH OUR MENTAL HEALTH CURTAILMENT, THAT





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1 IT REALLY IS A BENEFIT TO FAMILIES TO HAVE THAT HEALTHCARE  
2 AVAILABLE TO THE CHILDREN IN THEIR FAMILY ANYWAY.

3

4 **SUP. KNABE:** I GUESS THIS COULD BE BOTH TO BOTH MARV AND DAVID.  
5 WHAT ARE WE -- HOW ARE YOU ENCOURAGING THE STATE TO REIMBURSE  
6 US ON THAT -- THOSE DELAYED DOLLARS THEY OWED US, IS THERE ANY  
7 OTHER STRATEGY WE'RE DOING BY OURSELVES, OR WHAT OTHER  
8 COUNTIES ARE DOING, AS IT RELATES TO THE UNPAID SB-90 CLAIMS?

9

10 **C.A.O. JANSSEN:** SUPERVISOR, C.S.A.C. IS REVIEWING THE  
11 POSSIBILITY OF SUING THE STATE ON THE SB-90 REIMBURSEMENT JUST  
12 AS A WAY TO TRY TO GET THEM TO STOP THIS LOW COST LOAN  
13 PROGRAM. I ASSUME THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET TODAY WILL CONTINUE TO  
14 HAVE THAT IN IT. BEYOND THAT, THERE'S NOT MUCH ELSE WE CAN DO  
15 OTHER THAN CONTINUE TO PRESS ON THEM TO AT LEAST STOP THE  
16 PROGRAM IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

17

18 **SUP. KNABE:** OKAY.

19

20 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** SUPERVISOR, ADDITIONALLY, WE  
21 ARE TRYING TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL  
22 HEALTH BY INFORMING THEM THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PERFORM  
23 ACCORDING TO OUR CONTRACT WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL  
24 HEALTH SHOULD WE FAIL TO BE REIMBURSED IN THE NEXT FISCAL



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1 YEAR. THERE'S A PERFORMANCE CONTRACT THAT WE NEED TO SIGN THAT  
2 HAS A DISPUTE CLAUSE. WE'LL BE INVOKING THAT DISPUTE CLAUSE.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** AND COUNTY COUNSEL WILL REVIEW OUR LEGAL --

5

6 **MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, DIR., D.M.H.:** YES. COUNTY COUNSEL IS ALSO  
7 INVOLVED BEFORE WE TAKE ANY SUCH ACTIONS.

8

9 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THEN THE NEXT SPEAKERS ARE?

10

11 **SUP. KNABE:** WELL BRUCE SALTZER SIGNED UP, DR. KITA CURRY, DR.  
12 SUSAN MANDEL, IN REGARDS TO...

13

14 **BRUCE SALTZER:** GOOD MORNING.

15

16 **SUP. KNABE:** GOOD MORNING.

17

18 **BRUCE SALTZER:** BEFORE I GO ON TO MY PREPARED REMARKS, I'D LIKE  
19 TO MAKE JUST A COUPLE OF COMMENTS ABOUT THE HEALTHY FAMILIES  
20 ISSUE THAT WAS JUST RAISED. IN THEORY, WE THINK IT'S AN  
21 EXCELLENT --

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME?

24



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1   **BRUCE SALTZER:** I'M SORRY. BRUCE SALTZER, ASSOCIATION OF  
2   COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES. IN THEORY, WE THINK IT'S A  
3   VERY GOOD CONCEPT TO MOVE THESE FAMILIES OVER TO THAT PROGRAM.  
4   IN REALITY, WE THINK IF A LOT OF THEM ARE AT SOME POINT ABLE  
5   TO DO THAT AND WE THINK THAT QUITE A FEW OR LARGE, LARGE  
6   NUMBERS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM IT WILL TAKE  
7   QUITE A BIT OF TIME TO DO THAT, AND IF YOU LOOK EVEN IN TERMS  
8   OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO MOVE PEOPLE ON TO MEDI-CAL, THE  
9   EXPANSION OF THAT PROGRAM TOOK, IN TERMS OF THE LARGE, LARGE  
10   NUMBERS OF PEOPLE, TWO OR THREE YEARS TO DO THAT, AND SO WE  
11   STILL THINK THAT THERE WILL BE, FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR, A CUT OF  
12   PROBABLY AT LEAST 4 TO \$5 MILLION THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE  
13   IN TERMS OF THAT PROGRAM UNTIL EVEN A SMALL PORTION OF THOSE  
14   FAMILIES COULD BE MOVED ON TO THE PROGRAM. SO I JUST WANTED TO  
15   ADDRESS THAT FIRST.

16

17   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU HAVE TO QUALIFY AS A PROVIDER  
18   UNDER WHATEVER PLAN THEY HAVE IN ORDER TO QUALIFY? DO YOU HAVE  
19   TO SIGN A CONTRACT WITH THEIR?

20

21   **BRUCE SALTZER:** WELL OUR AGENCIES ALREADY DO A LOT OF WORK TO  
22   GET THESE FAMILIES ON TO -- ON TO THE PROGRAM, AND THEY DO  
23   PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER THAT PROGRAM. BUT AGAIN,  
24   THERE'S LARGE NUMBERS THAT JUST DON'T QUALIFY, AND, YOU KNOW,  
25   I'VE TALKED TO A NUMBER OF AGENCIES THAT SAY, "GEE, WE'RE



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1 WORKING ON IT, IT'S JUST WE -- THERE'S JUST A LOT OF BARRIERS  
2 TO BEING ABLE TO DO THAT." SO AGAIN, IT'S -- IN THEORY, WE  
3 AGREE WITH THE CONCEPT, IN PRACTICALITY, WE DON'T THINK IT'S  
4 GOING TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM FOR NEXT YEAR. NOW TO MY PREPARED  
5 MARKS. HUNDREDS IF NOT THOUSANDS OF UNINSURED CHILDREN WITH  
6 SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES ARE SLATED TO HAVE THEIR MENTAL  
7 HEALTH TREATMENT ELIMINATED AS PART OF NEXT FISCAL YEAR'S  
8 COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BUDGET, AS WE HAVE MENTIONED, TO THE TUNE  
9 OF \$4.5 MILLION. THESE CUTS NOW BEING PROPOSED FOLLOW ALMOST  
10 \$9 MILLION IN CURTAILMENTS, OUR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
11 AGENCIES WERE FORCED TO TAKE THIS CURRENT FISCAL YEAR,  
12 PRIMARILY DIRECTED AT UNINSURED CHILDREN AND ADULTS. THE \$4.5  
13 MILLION IN PROPOSED CUTS FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN FOR NEXT  
14 FISCAL YEAR ALSO DOES NOT INCLUDE ANOTHER \$9 MILLION THAT  
15 COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES ARE NOW TARGETED TO LOSE AS A  
16 RESULT OF LOST COUNTY TOBACCO REVENUES AND A.B.-3632 FUNDING  
17 FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS. THIS IS A BLEAK  
18 PICTURE INDEED. THE SADDEST PART OF THIS PICTURE IS THAT THE  
19 PROPOSED \$4.5 MILLION IN CHILDREN'S PROGRAM CURTAILMENTS ARE  
20 COMPLETELY PREVENTABLE. I'LL REPEAT THAT. COMPLETELY  
21 PREVENTABLE. IN FACT, THIS MONEY IS BEING PROPOSED TO BE CUT  
22 EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST FROM BUDGETS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCIES,  
23 DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
24 ACTUALLY HAS THIS MONEY AVAILABLE IN SAVINGS IN ITS BUDGET. I  
25 MUST SADLY STATE THAT IN THE MORE THAN 12 YEARS THAT I HAVE



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1 BEEN AN ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN THIS  
2 COUNTY, THIS BOLD MOVE IS UNPRECEDENTED. IN FACT, THE COUNTY  
3 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH IS TO BE APPLAUDED FOR INITIALLY  
4 PROPOSING A BALANCED BUDGET FOR NEXT FISCAL YEAR WHICH  
5 INCLUDED NO CUTS IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE CRITICALLY ILL  
6 CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN THIS COUNTY. THAT  
7 BUDGET WAS REJECTED AND A \$10 MILLION BUDGET CURTAILMENT WAS  
8 CREATED TO REDUCE THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH FUTURE  
9 ALLIANCE ON THE USE OF ONE-TIME MONEY. THIS IS MONEY THAT  
10 D.M.H. CONTINUES TO HAVE AVAILABLE WHICH COULD BE USED TO  
11 ELIMINATE ALL OF THE \$4.5 MILLION IN PROPOSED CUTS FOR  
12 INDIGENT CHILDREN SERVED BY OUR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH  
13 AGENCIES. OUR ASSOCIATION DOES NOT WISH TO IGNORE THE COUNTY'S  
14 NEED FOR FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND  
15 THE VERY DIFFICULT ROLE PLAYED BY THOSE IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
16 WHOSE JOB IT IS TO MANAGE THE OVERALL COUNTY BUDGET. MORE  
17 IMPORTANTLY, WE CANNOT AND DO NOT WISH TO IGNORE THE AWFUL  
18 SITUATION THAT THE COUNTY FINDS ITSELF IN WITH RESPECT TO THE  
19 COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST EMPHASIZE  
20 THAT D.M.H. IS NOT IN THE SAME SITUATION, THAT THE COUNTY  
21 HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN IN OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, WITH  
22 ITS HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF PROJECTED DEFICITS AND  
23 PRIOR YEAR BAIL-OUTS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AT AN END. FOR  
24 MANY YEARS, THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, AS WELL AS  
25 OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, HAVE RELIED ON ONE-TIME REVENUES FOR



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1 AT LEAST A PORTION OF THEIR BUDGETS. IN FACT, TO SOME DEGREE,  
2 ALL COUNTY BUDGETS ARE BUILT SIGNIFICANTLY ON ONE-TIME  
3 REVENUES. SINCE WE ALL KNOW THERE ARE RARELY ANY HARD AND FAST  
4 GUARANTEES THAT MONEY AVAILABLE ONE YEAR WILL ALSO BE  
5 AVAILABLE THE NEXT. AT THE SAME TIME, ACCORDING TO MENTAL  
6 HEALTH IS BUDGET FIGURES, IN FISCAL YEAR 1999/2000, D.M.H.  
7 UTILIZED \$74 MILLION IN ONE-TIME REVENUES AS PART OF A TOTAL  
8 BUDGET OF \$771 MILLION, OR ABOUT 10% OF THE DEPARTMENT'S  
9 BUDGET. FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR, EVEN IF, EVEN IF THE \$10  
10 MILLION PROPOSED FOR CURTAILMENT WERE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
11 DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET FOR CONTINUED CARE, THE AMOUNT OF ONE-TIME  
12 REVENUES INCLUDED WOULD EQUAL ONLY \$46 MILLION, OUT OF A TOTAL  
13 BUDGET OF \$1.066 BILLION, OR A LITTLE OVER 3% OF THE  
14 DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET. THAT'S ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE PERCENTAGE  
15 OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OVERALL BUDGET OF FOUR YEARS AGO. AND SO  
16 WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU, THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF  
17 SUPERVISORS, CONSIDER YOUR ABILITY TO STOP THESE REAL, ALBEIT  
18 PREVENTABLE, TERRIBLE CUTS TO LARGE NUMBERS OF UNINSURED  
19 CHILDREN IN GREAT NEED, AND BALANCE AGAINST YOUR DESIRE TO  
20 RESOLVE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM LATER ON WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT  
21 MATERIALIZE. WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE  
22 NECESSARY ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD IS A RELATIVELY EASY  
23 ONE: RESTORE THE \$4.5 MILLION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
24 CONSIDERATION.

25





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1    **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. DR. CURRY?

2

3    **DR. KITA CURRY:** I'M UP NEXT RIGHT. I'M DR. KITA CURRY AND I'M  
4    THE PRESIDENT OF D.D. HIRSCH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER AS  
5    WELL AS THE HEAD OF THE BOARD OF A.C.H.S.A. BUT I DON'T SPEAK  
6    HERE JUST FOR MY AGENCY AND THE CHILDREN WE SERVE; I'M  
7    SPEAKING FOR THE DOZENS OF OTHER AGENCIES THAT PROVIDE 75% OF  
8    THE SERVICES, THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO CHILDREN IN THIS  
9    COUNTY. AND I WANT TO START OUT BY SAYING THAT I CONSIDERED  
10   MYSELF LUCKY TO LIVE AND WORK IN A COUNTY WHERE I KNOW THAT  
11   EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE SUPERVISORS GENUINELY CARES ABOUT  
12   THE WELL BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND I KNOW AS BRUCE SAID,  
13   THAT YOU'VE HAD TO MAKE WRENCHING DECISIONS THIS YEAR WHERE  
14   YOUR CHOICE ISN'T HOW MUCH GOOD YOU CAN DO, BUT HOW LITTLE  
15   HARM CAN YOU DO. AND I CANNOT QUESTION THE GENERAL LOGIC OF  
16   MAKING A DECISION TO DENY SERVICES TO UNINSURED CHILDREN SO  
17   THAT -- AND TO LIMIT SERVICES TO CHILDREN THAT HAVE MEDI-CAL  
18   AND HEALTHY FAMILIES, EVEN THOUGH THAT DOES CAUSE HARM. BUT  
19   WHAT I DO QUESTION IS THE MAGNITUDE OF THE CUT AND THE  
20   MAGNITUDE OF THE IMPACT IT'S GOING TO HAVE. THESE CUTS TRULY  
21   WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SERVE FOR, AT LEAST FOR PROVIDERS,  
22   TO SERVE CHILDREN WHO DON'T ALREADY HAVE MEDI-CAL OR HEALTHY  
23   FAMILIES. IT TAKES TIME TO GET HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND IN THAT  
24   INTERIM, EXCUSE ME, WE NEED MONEY TO SERVE THE CHILDREN. ALSO,  
25   IF ONE MONTH, A FAMILY HAS A TERRIBLE, UNEXPECTED COST, MAYBE



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1 THEIR CAR BREAKS DOWN AND THE PARENT CAN'T GET TO WORK WITHOUT  
2 IT, IF THEY CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY THEIR PREMIUM FOR HEALTHY  
3 FAMILIES THAT MONTH, THEY WON'T BE COVERED AND THEY WOULD  
4 TECHNICALLY NOT BE ABLE TO BE SERVED BY US BECAUSE THIS CUT  
5 ELIMINATES ALL SERVICES TO CHILDREN THAT DON'T HAVE THOSE TWO  
6 FORMS OF INSURANCE. SO WHAT I AM ARGUING IS THAT WE NEED SOME  
7 MONEY. WE CANNOT TAKE A \$4.5 MILLION CUT, WHICH IS HALF OF THE  
8 PROPOSED CUT, EVEN THOUGH WE PROVIDE 75% OF THE SERVICES TO  
9 CHILDREN, WE CANNOT TAKE THAT CUT WITHOUT IT REALLY HAVING  
10 DEVASTATING IMPACT. AND JUST TO GIVE YOU A PICTURE OF THESE  
11 CHILDREN, I LOOKED AT THE CHILDREN WE NOW SERVE WHO DO NOT  
12 HAVE MEDI-CAL OR HEALTHY FAMILIES. ALL BUT THREE ARE LATINO OR  
13 AFRICAN-AMERICAN. MORE THAN A THIRD ARE FROM MONOLINGUAL  
14 FAMILIES. TWO-THIRDS LIVE IN HIGH-NEED AREAS. THE PICO UNION  
15 AREA, SOUTH LOS ANGELES, AND INGLEWOOD. THREE-QUARTERS ARE 10  
16 YEARS OLD OR YOUNGER, AND JUST LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THREE OF  
17 THOSE FAMILIES. FOUR BOYS BETWEEN THE AGE OF FIVE AND 13 YEARS  
18 OLD WITNESS, OH MY GOSH, WITNESS THE -- [ COUGHING ] -- I'M  
19 FINE. I SOUND TERRIBLE. FOUR BOYS BETWEEN THE AGE OF FIVE AND  
20 13 YEARS OLD WITNESSED THE SHOOTING OF THEIR MOTHER AT A  
21 PARTY. RIGHT NOW THEY DON'T HAVE MEDI-CAL AND THEY DON'T HAVE  
22 HEALTHY FAMILIES. WE ARE WORKING ON SIGNING THEM UP, ON  
23 HELPING THEIR FATHER GET BENEFITS, BUT THEY CAN'T WAIT UNTIL  
24 THEY HAVE THAT COVERAGE TO BE SERVED. ANOTHER FAMILY, A  
25 MONOLINGUAL SPANISH-SPEAKING MOTHER WAS REFERRED TO US BY THE



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1 SCHOOL AFTER HER 13-YEAR-OLD SON TOLD A FRIEND HE WAS PLANNING  
2 TO SHOOT HIMSELF, TO KILL HIMSELF, IN A SCHOOL ASSEMBLY. SHE  
3 BELIEVES SHE WILL QUALIFY FOR HEALTHY FAMILIES BUT SHE DOESN'T  
4 HAVE IT RIGHT NOW AND SHE NEEDS OUR SERVICES. AND LAST, THERE  
5 WAS A WORKING POOR FAMILY WITH A TEENAGE BOY WHO WAS PSYCHOTIC  
6 AND DELUSIONAL. THERE WAS NO WAY THAT THEY COULD AFFORD THE  
7 THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IT COSTS TO GET MEDICATION AND  
8 PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION. THEY HAD TO BE SERVED BY US. BUT NOW  
9 THE FATHER HAS A JOB WHERE HE'S CHANGED JOBS AND HE'S GOING TO  
10 GET HEALTH INSURANCE AND THEY'RE GOING TO TRANSITION OUT OF  
11 OUR CARE. WE NEED TO HAVE MONEY TO SERVE THESE CHILDREN, AND I  
12 WILL END BY TELLING YOU THAT 8% OF TEENAGERS IN LOS ANGELES  
13 ADMIT THEY HAVE MADE A SUICIDE ATTEMPT. THAT'S THREE TEENAGERS  
14 IN EVERY CLASS OF 36. I UNDERSTAND WE HAVE TO MAKE HARD  
15 DECISIONS AND WE WANT TO HAVE SOFT LANDINGS IN THE FUTURE IF  
16 THERE ARE DEFICITS, BUT WE NEED A SOFT LANDING FOR SOME OF  
17 THESE VERY YOUNG AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN. THANK YOU.

18

19 **GLADYS LEE:** GOOD MORNING, SUPERVISOR BURKE, CHAIRMAN OF THE  
20 BOARD, AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. I'M NOT SUSAN MANDEL, EVEN  
21 THOUGH I WORK FOR HER, SUSAN -- DR. MANDEL IS UP IN SACRAMENTO  
22 THIS MORNING AND I AM ASKED TO TAKE HER PLACE. I AM THE CHIEF  
23 PROFESSIONAL OFFICER AT PACIFIC CLINICS, MY NAME IS GLADYS  
24 LEE. OVER THE LAST 20-PLUS YEARS, I HAVE COME BEFORE YOU ON  
25 MANY, MANY OCCASIONS TO SEEK YOUR SUPPORT, TO PRESERVE MENTAL



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1 HEALTH SERVICES TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS IN TIMES OF ECONOMIC  
2 DIFFICULTIES. WHAT WE ARE FACING TODAY IS BEYOND ANYTHING I  
3 HAVE EXPERIENCED AS AN ADVOCATE FOR THESE MANY YEARS. THESE  
4 ARE INDEED EXTRAORDINARY TIMES THAT REQUIRE ALL OF US, PUBLIC  
5 LEADERS SUCH AS YOURSELVES, POLICY MAKERS, PROVIDERS SUCH AS  
6 PACIFIC CLINICS, ADVOCACY GROUPS, CONSUMERS, AND FAMILY  
7 MEMBERS OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM, TO COME TOGETHER TO DO  
8 THE BEST WE CAN TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER AND WEATHER THE STORM  
9 WITH THE BEST THOUGHT-OUT PLAN POSSIBLE TO MEET THE GROWING  
10 BUDGET PROBLEMS WE FACE HERE IN CALIFORNIA AND LOS ANGELES  
11 COUNTY. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I COME BEFORE YOU TO PRESENT  
12 AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE BUDGET CURTAILMENTS AS PROPOSED BY  
13 DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH. PACIFIC CLINICS IS THE LARGEST  
14 CONTRACTOR WITH L.A. COUNTY D.M.H. WE PROVIDE THOUSANDS OF  
15 HOURS OF SERVICES TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, OLDER  
16 ADULTS AND FAMILIES IN SERVICE AREA THREE OF THE LOS ANGELES  
17 COUNTY. D.M.H. HAS INFORMED US THAT WE WILL BE CURTAILED BY  
18 ANOTHER 700,000 IN COUNTY GENERAL FUNDS FOR THE NEXT FISCAL  
19 YEAR. THIS REPRESENTS 41% OF PACIFIC CLINIC'S INDIGENT CARE  
20 BUDGET FOR SERIOUSLY EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED CHILDREN. IN  
21 SERVICE AREA THREE PACIFIC CLINICS IS THE SAFETY NET PROVIDER  
22 FOR UNINSURED KIDS. THE ONLY COUNTY-OPERATED CLINIC, ARCADIA  
23 MENTAL HEALTH, IS AN ADULT CLINIC, AND MACLAREN IS NOW CLOSED.  
24 WHILE 700,000 MIGHT SEEM PALE TO THE MASSIVE BUDGET PROBLEMS  
25 WE ARE FACING, IT DOES TRANSLATE TO HUNDREDS OF VERY SICK KIDS



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1 LEFT WITHOUT SERVICES. WE ALL KNOW THEY JUST WON'T DISAPPEAR.  
2 THEY WILL BLEED THE SYSTEM BY USING MORE EXPENSIVE SERVICES  
3 SUCH AS IN-PATIENT CARE OR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THESE  
4 ARE KIDS WITH MULTIPLE PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES, INCLUDING  
5 MENTAL ILLNESS, CONDUCT DISORDERS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, AND DUAL  
6 DIAGNOSIS. EVERY YEAR FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, D.M.H. HAS  
7 ROLLED OVER AND SPENT DOLLARS TO THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR. WE  
8 AT PACIFIC CLINICS THINK THERE ARE STILL WAYS FOR D.M.H. TO  
9 LOOK FURTHER INTO THEIR BUDGET, TO FIND OTHER ALTERNATIVES  
10 BEFORE CLOSING VITAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS TO THE MOST  
11 VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF THIS COUNTY. CHILDREN WHO, THROUGH NO  
12 FAULT OF THEIR OWN, ARE BURDENED WITH MANY MENTAL HEALTH  
13 BARRIERS TO THEIR SUCCESS IN SCHOOL, AT HOME, AND IN THE  
14 COMMUNITY. THEY ARE THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND THEY  
15 NEED TO BE SPARED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM LOSING SUPPORT THAT  
16 CAN MEAN LIFE OR DEATH FOR SOME OF THEM AND THE CHANCE FOR A  
17 BETTER FUTURE FOR MOST. LAST FISCAL YEAR, PACIFIC CLINICS TOOK  
18 A 1.1 MILLION C.G.F. REDUCTION IN OUR ADULT SERVICES. SINCE  
19 OCTOBER 2001, WE HAVE HAD TO TURN AWAY OVER 1500 CALLERS,  
20 REFERRALS FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SERVICE AREA THREE.  
21 THE LOSS OF TOBACCO SETTLEMENT FUNDS THIS PAST DECEMBER HAS  
22 ELIMINATED THE CAPACITY OF OUR ASIAN/PACIFIC FAMILY CENTER TO  
23 SERVE INDIGENT ADULTS AND CHILDREN, WHO ARE FREQUENTLY  
24 MONOLINGUAL AND REQUIRE SPECIALIZED LINGUISTIC AND CULTURALLY  
25 APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS TO STAY OUT OF THE HOSPITALS.



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1   UNDERSERVED IMMIGRANT FAMILIES WILL BE IMPACTED THE MOST.  
2   THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS BOARD TO AVERT THE CURRENT  
3   BUDGET CURTAILMENTS FOR UNINSURED KIDS IN THE SERVICE AREA  
4   WHERE THERE ARE NO OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THEM. PLEASE  
5   MAKE THIS HAPPEN. THANK YOU.

6

7   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YOU KNOW, I WOULD JUST HAVE ONE COMMENT. IT  
8   WOULD SEEM TO ME THAT, WITH THE KIND OF A DONATION BASE THAT  
9   YOU HAVE AND SOME OF THE KIND OF MONEYS THAT ARE AVAILABLE, IT  
10   WOULD MAKE SENSE TO TRY TO IDENTIFY SOME FUNDS TO HELP WITH  
11   THOSE YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE TO PAY THEIR PREMIUM FOR HEALTHY  
12   FAMILIES, AND I KNOW THERE'S, YOU KNOW, THE FIRST FIVE THAT  
13   I'VE JUST STARTED WORKING WITH THEM AND IT SEEMS LOGICAL THAT  
14   THEY WOULD BE HELPING FOR THE VERY YOUNG CHILDREN TO PROVIDE  
15   SOME ASSISTANCE. MY UNDERSTANDING IS, FOR INSTANCE, L.A. CARE  
16   CANNOT DO THAT, THEY CAN'T PROVIDE THE PREMIUMS. THAT WE CAN'T  
17   PROVIDE THE PREMIUMS. BUT THEY HAVE TO BE PROVIDED SEPARATE  
18   AND APART, AND I RECOGNIZE THE PREMIUMS, IT'S A BIG ISSUE AND  
19   THAT'S THE REASON WHY YOU DON'T HAVE AS MANY OF THE CHILDREN  
20   WHO REMAIN ON HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND FOR THIS ALTERNATIVE TO  
21   WORK, THERE HAS TO BE SOME STRATEGY TO GET THOSE PREMIUMS  
22   PAID, AND I WOULD JUST HOPE THAT EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER TO  
23   TRY TO ARRIVE AT THIS -- A STRATEGY BECAUSE WE MAY OR MAY NOT  
24   HAVE THE MONEY TO PUT IT IN. YOU KNOW, WE HAVE TO FACE SOME  
25   REALITIES TODAY.





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1

**BRUCE SALTZER:** I UNDERSTAND. OUR AGENCIES, JUST SO YOU KNOW,  
AND WE'VE -- I'VE DONE A SURVEY IN THE PAST, CONTRIBUTE TENS  
OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF UNCOMPENSATED CARE TO THE MENTAL  
HEALTH PROGRAMS, AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. IT'S NOT LIKE  
THEY HAVE ADDITIONAL MONEY THAT IS NOT BEING SPENT ALREADY TO  
SERVE THE INDIGENT POPULATION THAT WE CAN'T ALREADY SEE TODAY.  
SO AGAIN, AS WE'VE SAID BEFORE, WE'RE TURNING WAY PEOPLE, THE  
INDIGENT CHILDREN AND ADULTS THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE CAPACITY  
TO SEE EVEN WITH THE TENS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF  
UNCOMPENSATED CARE THAT WE CONTRIBUTE TODAY. SO EVERY DOLLAR  
THAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE IS BEING SPENT IN THAT VEIN.

13

**SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WELL I GUESS WHAT I'M SAYING REALLY IS THAT  
MAYBE YOU CAN TURN SOME OF THAT UNCOMPENSATED CARE INTO  
COMPENSATED CARE BY DIRECTING THOSE DOLLARS INTO PREMIUMS FOR  
HEALTHY FAMILIES, AND WELL WE'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AT  
DIFFERENT ALTERNATIVES, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AT  
SOME METHODS OF TRYING TO SOLVE SOME OF THESE PROBLEMS,  
BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW THAT WE CAN JUST SAY, "OKAY, AND NO  
MATTER HOW SYMPATHETIC WE ARE, HOW MUCH WE REALLY WANT TO DO  
THESE THINGS, WE HAVE TOUGH TIMES.

23

**BRUCE SALTZER:** I UNDERSTAND.

25



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1   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** AND WE'RE GOING TO HEAR FROM -- AT 11:00,  
2   WE'RE GOING TO START HEARING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET. SOMEHOW I  
3   SUSPECT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE GOOD NEWS.

4

5   **BRUCE SALTZER:** JUST TO REINFORCE ONE THING TOO THOUGH, AGAIN  
6   THIS -- AT LEAST THERE'S 10 MILLION AND WE'RE ASKING FOR 4.5,  
7   THAT MONEY IS AVAILABLE TO BE GIVEN TO AGENCIES THIS YEAR.  
8   IT'S IN THE BUDGET, IT'S BEING SAVED FOR A RAINY DAY AT THESE  
9   POINT. AND I UNDERSTAND, YOU KNOW, THE CONCERNS FROM THE  
10   COUNTY SIDE ABOUT THAT, BUT WE HAVE A REAL CRISIS TODAY THAT  
11   WE'RE FACING, AND THAT'S OUR MAIN POINT. THE MONEY IS  
12   AVAILABLE, IT CAN BE SPENT, IT'S NOT LIKE THE COUNTY HAS TO GO  
13   AND TAKE MONEY FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE. MENTAL HEALTH HAS THAT  
14   MONEY IN ITS BUDGET. IT CAN BE SPENT FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND  
15   THAT'S OUR ARGUMENT.

16

17   **GLADYS LEE:** AND ALSO TO RESPOND TO YOUR SUGGESTION, SUPERVISOR  
18   BURKE, OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT PACIFIC CLINICS LAST MONTH  
19   APPROVED THAT WE USE WHATEVER FUNDS WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THE  
20   PREMIUMS, BECAUSE IN OUR EXPERIENCE TRYING TO SIGN OUR  
21   FAMILIES UP WITH HEALTHY FAMILIES, THE PREMIUM IS A MAJOR  
22   BARRIER, SO WE ARE DOING WHAT YOU SUGGESTED, BUT WE DO LIKE TO  
23   SUPPORT WHAT BRUCE SAID. WE CAN SOFTEN THE IMPACT OF THE  
24   PROPOSED CUTS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR BECAUSE THERE IS SAVINGS  
25   IN THE D.M.H. BUDGET. THAT WOULD GIVE US A WHOLE YEAR TO DO



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1 THE BEST WE CAN TO GET AS MANY FOLKS AS POSSIBLE SIGNED UP  
2 WITH HEALTH FAMILIES WITH US PAYING THE PREMIUMS FOR THEM.  
3 THANK YOU.

4

5 **BRUCE SALTZER:** AND IF I CAN MAKE ONE FINAL POINT. YOU KNOW,  
6 WE'VE HEARD BEFORE AND WE UNDERSTAND THIS THAT EVERYONE HAS TO  
7 ACCEPT THE PAIN OF THE BUDGET. EVEN IF THIS MONEY IS RESTORED,  
8 THERE WILL BE PAIN FOR OUR AGENCY SINCE WE WILL NOT HAVE  
9 ALMOST \$10 MILLION OF TOBACCO MONEY THAT WE HAD THIS YEAR THAT  
10 WENT TO SERVING SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS OF UNINSURED CHILDREN AS  
11 WELL AS OVER \$3 MILLION OF A.B.-3632 FUNDS FOR CHILDREN WITH  
12 SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS. SO IT IS NOT LIKE OUR AGENCIES ARE  
13 ALSO NOT HAVING TO ACCEPT SOME PAIN IN THE UPCOMING FISCAL  
14 YEAR IN TERMS OF OUR BUDGET, SO WE DO --

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE UNDERSTAND THAT.

17

18 **BRUCE SALTZER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU. AND YOU ALL DO A GREAT JOB.

21

22 **BRUCE SALTZER:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

23

24 **GLADYS LEE:** THANK YOU.

25



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1   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. PARKS AND REC IS NEXT AND MR.  
2   GALLAGHER, IS HE HERE?

3

4   **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** GOOD MORNING MADAM CHAIR  
5   AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, TIM GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND  
6   RECREATION. I JUST WANT TO TAKE A FEW MINUTES OF YOUR TIME TO  
7   BRIEFLY DISCUSS SOME OF CURTAILMENTS THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE  
8   UPCOMING PROPOSED BUDGET, SPECIFICALLY THE TRANSFER OF STATE-  
9   OWNED CASTAIC LAKE AND PLACERITA CANYON BACK TO THE STATE OF  
10   CALIFORNIA AND THE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAIL CREW. OVER THE  
11   PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TAKING MEASURES  
12   TO MOVE FORWARD WITH OUR EMPLOYEES AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
13   FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE STATE-OWNED FACILITIES BACK TO THE  
14   STATE FOR THEIR OPERATION AND THE CURTAILMENT OF THE TRAIL  
15   CREW TO BE EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1ST. WE'VE HAD NUMEROUS MEETINGS  
16   WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, BOTH  
17   ONSITE AT CASTAIC AND OFF-SITE REGARDING TRANSFER ISSUES. WHAT  
18   WE TRIED TO DO AND IN LOOKING AT POTENTIAL CURTAILMENTS IS TO  
19   LOOK AT WHAT FACILITIES WE HAD THAT COULD, IN EVERY POTENTIAL  
20   OPPORTUNITY, REMAIN OPEN, MAINTAINED AND/OR OPERATED BY OTHER  
21   PUBLIC AGENCIES. OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT IN THE BUSINESS OF CLOSING  
22   PARKS, WE'RE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROVIDING PUBLIC SERVICE AND  
23   SO WE BELIEVE, UNDER SOME DIRE SITUATIONS HERE FINANCIALLY,  
24   WE'VE COME UP WITH SOME POSSIBILITIES THAT COULD BE PUT  
25   FORWARD THAT WOULD MEET THOSE NEEDS. WE CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS



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1 WITH STATE PARKS, AS I SAID, AND LOCAL AND STATE  
2 REPRESENTATIVES TO POTENTIALLY IDENTIFY FUNDING SOURCES FOR  
3 THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF STATE-OWNED FACILITIES,  
4 SPECIFICALLY CASTAIC LAKE. ANY OPTIMISM THAT I MIGHT HAVE  
5 ABOUT SECURING THOSE FUNDS IS ALWAYS VERY CAUTIOUS,  
6 CONSIDERING THE STATE BUDGET PROCESS AND THE NEGOTIATIONS THAT  
7 WOULD HAVE TO OCCUR BETWEEN THE VARIOUS POLITICAL BODIES TO  
8 SECURE THE NECESSARY VOTES TO SECURE THAT STATE BUDGET. WE  
9 HAVE IDENTIFIED SOME SOURCES WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND  
10 RECREATION THAT COULD POTENTIALLY BE USED BUT OF COURSE THAT'S  
11 TIED TO THE BUDGET PROCESS, AND AGAIN, I CAUTION ANY OPTIMISM  
12 ON THAT. AS FAR AS PLACERITA CANYON, A NATURAL AREA, WE HAVE  
13 HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH TWO OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES WHO  
14 HAVE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN POTENTIALLY KEEPING THOSE  
15 FACILITIES OPEN AFTER JULY 1ST IF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
16 CANNOT CONTINUE OPERATION AFTER THAT TIME FRAME. REGARDING THE  
17 TRAIL CREW AND THE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAIL CREW, WE HAVE  
18 ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS GOING WITH THE L.A. CONSERVATION CORPS,  
19 WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE UP TO A QUARTER OF A MILLION  
20 DOLLARS IN TRAIL MAINTENANCE SERVICES IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR  
21 TO THE DEPARTMENT. WE HAVE BEGUN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE  
22 CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS WHO TRADITIONALLY DO TRAIL  
23 MAINTENANCE FOR PUBLIC AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE STATE. AND THE  
24 BOTTOM LINE IS WE ARE NOT CLOSING ANY TRAILS, WE ARE SIMPLY  
25 ABSORBING THE MAINTENANCE OF THOSE TRAILS IN WITH THE



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1 REMAINING STAFF THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT. TRAILS IS  
2 ONE OF THE PROGRAMS THAT WE DO HAVE THAT IRONICALLY COULD RELY  
3 MORE ON VOLUNTEER SERVICES THAN ANY OTHER PROGRAM. THE SIMPLE  
4 ANALOGY IS IT'S EASIER TO MAINTAIN A TRAIL WITH VOLUNTEERS  
5 THAN IT WOULD BE TO HAVE VOLUNTEERS KEEP SWIMMING POOLS OPEN,  
6 PROVIDING LIFEGUARD SERVICES, CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, AND  
7 MAINTAINING THE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT. BUT I HAVE TO CAUTION  
8 THE BOARD ALSO THAT EVERY TIME WE TAKE AN ADDITIONAL DECLINE  
9 IN THE NUMBER OF MAINTENANCE STAFF THAT WE HAVE WITHIN THE  
10 DEPARTMENT AND ADDITIONAL MAINTENANCE DUTY IS ABSORBED BY THE  
11 REMAINING STAFF, OUR ENTIRE MAINTENANCE LEVEL CONTINUES TO  
12 DECLINE AND WE'RE ALREADY AT A LEVEL WHERE WE'RE CURRENTLY NOT  
13 PROVIDING BASIC SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.  
14 AGAIN, WE BELIEVE WE'VE PUT FORWARD -- UNFORTUNATELY, WE'VE  
15 PUT FORWARD SOME FACILITIES THAT WE WOULD LOVE TO KEEP OPEN  
16 AND CONTINUE TO SEE GROW AND PROVIDE TO THE PUBLIC, BUT WE  
17 BELIEVE THERE ARE OPTIONS HERE WITH THE STATE-OWNED FACILITIES  
18 AND WITH THE TRAILS CREW TO CONTINUE KEEPING THEM OPEN,  
19 MAINTAINED, AND/OR OPERATED BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES. THAT  
20 CONCLUDES MY COMMENTS, AND IF THERE'S ANY QUESTIONS, I'D BE  
21 GLAD TO GIVE THEM AT THIS TIME.

22

23 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WHAT ABOUT THE ISSUE OF LIABILITY RELATIVE TO  
24 THE TRAILS?

25





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1    **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** THE ISSUE WITH LIABILITY  
2    IS BASICALLY THE SAME THAT WE HAVE WITH ANY OTHER MAINTENANCE  
3    ACTIVITY WE HAVE IN OUR PARKS, THAT WE HAVE TO BE COGNIZANT OF  
4    THE SAFETY FACTORS THAT WE HAVE TO ADDRESS FIRST, AND WE'RE  
5    VERY AWARE OF THAT AND THAT'S THE FIRST ACTION THAT ANY  
6    MAINTENANCE PERSON WILL DO IN A PARK SITUATION OR A TRAIL  
7    SITUATION, IS TO ASSESS WHAT POTENTIAL PROBLEMS WE HAVE. IF WE  
8    KNOW THERE'S AN ISSUE, WE HAVE TO GET IT CORRECTED.

9

10   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** SO RELATIVE TO THE MAINTENANCE ISSUE, YOU'RE  
11   STILL GOING TO HAVE A LEVEL OF MAINTENANCE TO PRECLUDE ANY  
12   POTENTIAL LIABILITY CASES.

13

14   **TIM GALLAGHER, DIR., PARKS AND REC.:** CORRECT. AS I MENTIONED,  
15   THE MAINTENANCE LEVEL WILL -- OR THE MAINTENANCE WILL CONTINUE  
16   TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE REMAINING EMPLOYEES AND  
17   WE'RE ALSO GOING TO BE WORKING WITH L.A. CONSERVATION CORPS TO  
18   PROVIDE UP TO A QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS IN ADDITIONAL  
19   MAINTENANCE NEXT FISCAL YEAR AT OUR TRAILS.

20

21   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** ANY QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERS? Q.A. MEMBERS FROM  
22   THE COMMUNITY THAT ARE HERE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY BROWN, MARY  
23   BARRIE AND LIZ BLACKWELDER. GOOD MORNING. JUST GIVE YOUR NAME  
24   BEFORE YOU SPEAK PLEASE.

25



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1   **GREG BROWN:** GOOD MORNING SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH. MY NAME IS  
2   GREG BROWN, I'M A CITY COUNCILMAN IN THE CITY OF LA CANADA-  
3   FLINTRIDGE. WE'RE HERE TO ADDRESS THIS MORNING THE PROPOSED  
4   CUTS ON THE TRAIL BUDGET, SOMETHING OF VERY SIGNIFICANT IMPORT  
5   TO OUR CITY AND MANY OF OUR NEIGHBORING CITIES. WE WANT TO  
6   PARTICULARLY POINT OUT THE FACT THAT WE'RE TALKING HERE ABOUT  
7   THE COMPLETE ELIMINATION OF THE TRAILS CREW. THIS IS A CREW  
8   THAT, SINCE 1990, HAS ALREADY BEEN CUT TWICE. IT'S MUCH  
9   SMALLER THAN IT WAS, BUT IT STILL PROVIDES A VERY IMPORTANT  
10  SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY, AND I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO  
11  HIGHLIGHT THAT WE'RE NOT TALKING HERE ABOUT MAINTENANCE OF,  
12  YOU KNOW, CUTTING WEEDS AND PICKING UP TRASH; WE'RE TALKING  
13  ABOUT ACTUALLY MAINTAINING THIS ASSET, BECAUSE THESE TRAILS  
14  DO, AS IS WELL KNOWN, THESE TRAILS HAVE PROBLEMS WITH RAIN  
15  WASHING THEM OUT AND WE'RE ACTUALLY TALKING HERE ABOUT  
16  MAINTAINING A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR ASSET. THIS ISN'T JUST  
17  ALLOWING DEFERRED MAINTENANCE, FOR INSTANCE, WITH, YOU KNOW,  
18  PAINT THAT IS GOING TO PEEL ON A BUILDING. WE'RE TALKING HERE  
19  ABOUT ACTUALLY LOSING SEGMENTS OF THE TRAIL. THIS IS A  
20  SPECIALIZED NEED. THERE'S SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT, IT'S A  
21  SPECIALIZED CREW THAT HAS KNOWLEDGE. THE CITY OF LA CANADA AND  
22  OTHER CITIES REFER TO THIS CREW FOR THAT EXPERTISE, AND THAT'S  
23  GOING TO BE LOST IF THIS FUNCTION IS TOTALLY -- IS JUST  
24  ABSORBED INTO THE GENERAL MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENTS. THERE'S  
25  ALSO THE ISSUE OF LIABILITY THAT WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THAT



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1 SUPERVISOR ANTONOVICH RAISED BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THESE  
2 TRAILS DO NEED ACTUAL STRUCTURAL WORK ON A REGULAR BASIS AND  
3 THEY NEED THE SPECIAL EQUIPMENT THAT IS MAINTAINED BY THE  
4 COUNTY. ALSO, IN TERMS OF SERVICE, WE GET EXCELLENT SERVICE  
5 FROM -- WE HAVE ONE PLACE WE CAN CALL WHEN WE HAVE A NEED AND  
6 THOSE NEEDS ARE SOMETIMES URGENT BECAUSE OF THE LIABILITY  
7 ISSUES AND WE CAN CALL THE TRAILS CREW AND KNOW WHO TO GET IN  
8 TOUCH WITH AND GET THAT SERVICE. SO WE UNDERSTAND, WE'RE ALL  
9 HURTING IN TERMS OF ON THE BUDGET FRONT, BUT HERE WE HAVE A  
10 DEPARTMENT OF 1150 EMPLOYEES PROPOSED FOR NEXT YEAR, AND YET  
11 WE'VE TARGETED THIS ONE AREA FOR COMPLETE ELIMINATION. THE  
12 CITY OF LA CANADA HAS PASSED A RESOLUTION, A UNANIMOUS  
13 RESOLUTION FROM OUR CITY COUNCIL WHICH WE'D LIKE TO MAKE  
14 AVAILABLE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FOR YOUR REVIEW, AND  
15 IT'S TRULY OUR CONCERN IS THE ELIMINATION OF THIS ENTIRE  
16 DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN SPREADING THE PAIN, IF YOU WILL,  
17 THROUGHOUT THE DEPARTMENTS. THANK YOU.

18  
19 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. YES?

20  
21 **MARY BARRIE:** GOOD MORNING. MY NAME IS MARY BARRIE. I'M THE  
22 PRESIDENT OF THE LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE TRAILS COUNCIL AND I'M  
23 ALSO HERE TO SPEAK IN OPPOSITION TO THE ELIMINATION OF THE  
24 TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW. FOR 30 YEARS SINCE 1974, THE TRAILS  
25 COUNCIL HAS GIVEN BOTH VOLUNTEER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO HELP



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1 THE COMPANY MAINTAIN OUR WONDERFUL TRAILS IN LA CANADA. IN  
2 1991, THE TRAILS CREW WAS CUT FROM 15 MEN TO NINE MEN, AND WE  
3 STRUGGLED ALONG WITH THE CREW TO KEEP THE TRAILS SAFE AND WELL  
4 GROOMED. SO WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENS. WE KNOW MORE THAN  
5 MOST WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRAIL  
6 MAINTENANCE IS SHIFTED AMONG VARIOUS DIFFERENT DIVISIONS, ALL  
7 OF WHOM HAVE DIFFERENT -- MANY, MANY DIFFERENT DUTIES TO  
8 ATTEND TO. AND WE ALSO KNOW FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, AND  
9 WE'RE THE VOLUNTEERS THAT MR. GALLAGHER WAS TALKING ABOUT. FOR  
10 30 YEARS, WE'VE BEEN VOLUNTEERING, AND WE KNOW HOW QUICKLY  
11 MOUNTAIN TRAILS IN PARTICULAR DETERIORATE. THEY NEED TO BE  
12 REGULARLY GRADED AND REPAIRED. WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT WEED  
13 WHACKING. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HEAVY EQUIPMENT THAT YOU CAN'T  
14 HAVE UNTRAINED VOLUNTEERS USING. AND THIS -- THIS CREW, THE  
15 CURRENT CREW, THEY'RE SOLELY DEVOTED TO TRAIL REPAIR, THEY  
16 KNOW THE TRAILS WELL, THEY PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE  
17 PROBLEM AREAS. THEY SAVE THE COUNTY MONEY AS COUNCILMAN BROWN  
18 SAID, BECAUSE OF THEIR EXPERTISE AND THE LIABILITY COSTS THAT  
19 THEY PREVENT. NOW I APPRECIATE THE SEVERE BUDGETARY  
20 CONSTRAINTS THAT YOU'RE ALL FACING, BUT I THINK ELIMINATING  
21 THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW WOULD BE VERY SHORTSIGHTED AND VERY  
22 COSTLY SOLUTION IN TERMS OF THE ULTIMATE PRICE TO BE PAID. AND  
23 IF I READ THE BUDGET RIGHT, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A SAVINGS OF  
24 \$420,000. WHY ENDANGER SUCH UNIQUE RESOURCES? I HAVE HERE IN  
25 FRONT OF ME AN ARTICLE FROM A 1937 ISSUE OF 'TRAILS MAGAZINE'



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1 THAT WAS PUBLISHED BY THE L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
2 RECREATION, CAMPS, AND PLAYGROUNDS. IT WAS WRITTEN 65 YEARS  
3 AGO, AND IT DESCRIBES A VISION OF A VAST SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM OF  
4 BRIDLE PATHS THAT WILL RIVAL ANY SIMILAR PATH KNOWN IN THE  
5 WEST. IT ENVISIONED A GREENBELT OF BEAUTIFUL TRAILS AROUND THE  
6 COUNTY. FOR OVER 65 YEARS, THE CITIZENS OF L.A. COUNTY HAVE  
7 HIKED AND RIDDEN AND BIKED ON THESE TRAILS. WHY PUT THIS  
8 INCREDIBLE RESOURCE AT RISK FOR \$420,000 OUT OF A BUDGET OF  
9 \$16.5 BILLION? IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. AND I'D HAVE TO  
10 SAY FINALLY, WITH THE POPULATION OF GREATER LOS ANGELES  
11 EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY SIX MILLION PEOPLE IN THE NEXT 20  
12 YEARS, THE TRAILS ARE GOING TO PLAY AN EVER MORE CRUCIAL RULE  
13 IN KEEPING L.A. LIVABLE, AND I KNOW THAT YOU PASSED A  
14 RESOLUTION THIS PAST FEBRUARY SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF  
15 TRAILS AND THE PRESERVATION OF THE EQUESTRIAN LIFE-STYLE.  
16 YOU'VE RECOGNIZED HOW IMPORTANT THE TRAILS ARE BY ALLOCATING  
17 FUNDS TO CREATE NEW TRAILS AND TO REOPEN EXISTING TRAILS THAT  
18 HAVE BEEN LOST, LIKE THE ALTADENA CREST TRAIL. THIS WILL ALL  
19 BE TAXPAYER MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN IF THE COMPARATIVELY SMALL  
20 AMOUNT REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THE TRAILS IS ELIMINATED. SO I  
21 WOULD JUST SAY THAT LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE TRAILS COUNCIL AND  
22 OUR VOLUNTEERS IN LA CANADA, AS ALWAYS, STAND READY TO SUPPORT  
23 THE TRAILS, AND WE ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THEM AS  
24 WELL BY ALLOCATING FUNDS IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET FOR THE TRAILS  
25 MAINTENANCE CREW. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



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1

2     **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. GOOD MORNING, LIZ.

3

4     **LIZ BLACKWELDER:** GOOD MORNING, ALL OF YOU SUPERVISORS. I'M  
5     LIZ BLACKWELDER, AND I'M A PERSON WHO HAS RIDDEN TRAILS FOR  
6     MANY, MANY YEARS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE FIRST TIME I WAS  
7     DOWN HERE IN THIS BUILDING, I WAS TALKING WITH KENNETH HAHN  
8     FOR WHOM THIS BUILDING IS NAMED, AND KENNETH WAS ASKING ME A  
9     COMPARISON OF OUR CALIFORNIA TRAILS WITH TRAILS ACROSS THE  
10    UNITED STATES AND HIS REQUEST WAS HOW DO WE COMPARE WITH WHAT  
11    I SAW WHEN I RODE MY HORSE ACROSS THE UNITED STATES WITH THE  
12    BICENTENNIAL. SO YOU SEE, I HAVE BEEN A PERSON IN FAVOR OF  
13    TRAILS MAINTENANCE FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. LA CANADA MAY SEEM TO  
14    BE A RATHER ELITE COMMUNITY, BUT IT IS A COMMUNITY WHICH HAS  
15    TAKEN THE FOREFRONT IN ALL OF THE MATTERS OF TRAILS. I HAVE A  
16    BOOKLET HERE IN WHICH LOS -- THE LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE BECAME  
17    ONE OF THE TOP TRAILED TOWNS IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS WAS A  
18    CONTEST SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY. SO YOU SEE,  
19    THIS REPRESENTS NOT ONLY HORSES AND PEOPLE WHO RIDE BICYCLES,  
20    BUT IT REPRESENTS HIKERS. WE WERE VOTED ONE OF THE TOP 10  
21    CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES AND WE WON THIS AWARD WHICH WE ARE  
22    ENTITLED TO REPRODUCE AND PUT THROUGHOUT OUR CITY. WE ARE  
23    CONCERNED, OF COURSE, ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE TRAILS, NOT ONLY  
24    IN OUR COMMUNITY, BUT IN ALL OF LOS ANGELES AND WITH THE  
25    POPULATION EXPECTED TO GO SKY-HIGH IN ANOTHER FEW YEARS, WE





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1 NEED THESE TRAILS, WE NEED THEM FOR RECREATION, BECAUSE  
2 RECREATION IS SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE FOR PEOPLE, THEY HAVE  
3 TO GET AWAY FROM THE GRIND OF DAILY LIVING. OUR TRAILS ARE  
4 WHAT WE CALL IN LA CANADA, THEY'RE WHAT ARE SINGLE PARKS? WHAT  
5 DO WE CALL? MARY BARRIE: LINEAR PARKS.

6

7 **LIZ BLACKWELDER:** LINEAR PARKS, THAT IS -- EXCUSE ME, I'M  
8 FORGETTING THE NAME. LINEAR PARKS ARE PARKS WHICH CAN BE USED  
9 BY ANYBODY. HIKING IS SO IMPORTANT. SO I JUST HAVE TO SAY THAT  
10 WITH THE INVESTMENT OF THE MONEY THAT ALL THE COMMUNITIES PUT  
11 IN THE TRAILS THAT ARE ALREADY -- ALREADY EXIST, IT IS  
12 ESSENTIAL THAT WE TAKE CARE OF THEM. JUST RECENTLY, THE SANTA  
13 MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY GAVE OUR COMMUNITY \$600,000 FOR  
14 THE ACQUISITION OF SOME ACRES WHICH ARE A TRAIL ACCESS, OF  
15 WHICH WE ARE VERY PROUD. NOW HOW CAN THE STATE BE GIVING US  
16 MONEY OF THAT MAGNITUDE AND THEN LEARN THAT THE TRAILS ARE  
17 BEING, BEING -- MAINTENANCE IS BEING CUT? IT DOESN'T MAKE  
18 SENSE. I HAVE HERE AN ARTICLE PUT OUT BY THE COUNTY OF LOS  
19 ANGELES AND I WOULD LIKE ALL OF YOU SUPERVISORS TO HAVE A COPY  
20 OF IT. IT'S NOTABLE HERE THAT THE BUDGET IN 1996 WAS \$437,000.  
21 WE ARE AT THIS SAME AMOUNT OF MONEY IS BEING USED NOW, ARE YOU  
22 GOING TO TELL ME, WILL YOU PASS THAT OUT. THAT'S VERY GOOD. SO  
23 AS I SAY, IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT WE KEEP THE TRAILS. IN  
24 1996, JIM COMPOS WAS THE HEAD OF THE TRAILS COMMITTEE, AND HE  
25 WROTE IN OUR LETTER THAT HIS CREW WAS BEING CUT FROM 14 TO 10.



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1 NOW IT'S EVEN LESS. THE MILEAGE STAYS THE SAME. THE CREWS ARE  
2 CUT DOWN. YOU ARE STRANGLING OUR TRAIL SYSTEM SLOWLY BUT  
3 SURELY. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN. THANK YOU.

4

5 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU. OKAY. LINDA PALMER, ROSA LAVEAGA,  
6 DEBORAH STEVENS. PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME BEFORE YOU SPEAK, GOOD  
7 MORNING.

8

9 **LINDA PALMER:** I'M LINDA PALMER, I'M THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF  
10 THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS TRAILS COUNCIL, AND I'M -- I HAVE  
11 NOT BEEN TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR A LONG TIME. I WAS  
12 APPALLED AT HOW MUCH WORSE THE TRAFFIC HAS GOTTEN, BUT I'M  
13 GLAD THAT I FINALLY GOT HERE. SO GOOD MORNING AND THANK YOU  
14 FOR HEARING THIS. THE PEOPLE FROM LA CANADA EXPRESSED  
15 THEMSELVES VERY WELL ABOUT STRANGLING THE TRAILS SYSTEM, AND  
16 IT'S A TRAIL SYSTEM THAT IS SO VALUABLE TO THE PUBLIC, AND FOR  
17 THE AMOUNT OF PLEASURE AND HEALTHY EXERCISE THAT PEOPLE GET  
18 OUT OF IT. IT'S REALLY NOT ALL THAT EXPENSIVE. SO I'M HERE TO  
19 ASK THAT THE TRAIL CREW -- THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREW OF THE  
20 COUNTY NOT BE DISBANDED. IT ISN'T VERY MANY MEN, BUT THEY ARE  
21 VERY EXPERIENCED, THEY KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING, THEY DO A GOOD  
22 JOB, AND THEY HAVE OVER 300 MILES OF TRAIL THAT THEY LOOK  
23 AFTER. IN THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS, WE HAVE SEVERAL COUNTY  
24 TRAILS OR SEGMENTS OF COUNTY TRAIL AND OUR TRAILS COUNCIL HAS  
25 A SORT OF A LOOSE AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY PARKS THAT THE



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1 MOUNTAINOUS TRAILS WE WILL MAINTAIN, AND WE HAVE BEEN DOING  
2 THAT, BUT THERE ARE SOME SEGMENTS THAT WE NEED THE COUNTY TO  
3 MAINTAIN. ONE OF THEM IS THE TRAILS THROUGH SALCA UNIVERSITY.  
4 IT WAS PUT IN WITH THE COUNTY'S LITTLE BULLDOZER AND IT NEEDS  
5 TO BE MAINTAINED. IT HAS SOME TECHNICAL PROBLEMS THAT THE  
6 COUNTY NEEDS TO DO, AND THEY DO DO IT, AND THEN THERE ARE A  
7 COUPLE OF OTHER SPOTS THAT THEY HAVE WORKED ON, BUT MOST OF  
8 THE TRAILS THAT YOUR TRAIL CREW WORK ON ARE IN OTHER AREAS OF  
9 THE COUNTY, AND THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT AND SOME OF THEM GO  
10 THROUGH URBAN AREAS, SOME ARE MORE RURAL, BUT THEY'RE TRAILS  
11 THAT WERE PUT IN WITH THE LITTLE COUNTY BULLDOZERS AND THEY  
12 NEED TO BE MAINTAINED WITH THOSE BULLDOZERS, TO TRY TO USE  
13 C.C.C. TO DO IT WOULD NOT WORK BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED TO  
14 USE BIG EQUIPMENT. PLUS, ALTHOUGH IT'S GOOD TO GIVE JOBS TO  
15 THE C.C.C., THE C.C.C., I HAVE NOT FOUND THAT THEY ARE THAT  
16 EFFICIENT. I DON'T THINK THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO GET VERY MUCH  
17 WORK DONE FOR A QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS. THE MONEY  
18 DOESN'T GO VERY FAR. YOUR CREW IS MUCH MORE EFFICIENT. YOUR  
19 COUNTY, YOU CAN BE VERY PROUD OF YOUR TRAILS -- YOUR TRAIL  
20 SYSTEM. IN, I THINK IT WAS 1996, IT WON AN AWARD FOR TRAIL  
21 TOWN U.S.A. AND THAT WAS QUITE AMAZING AND ACTUALLY I THINK IT  
22 WAS AT MY SUGGESTION THAT THE COUNTY APPLIED FOR THE CONTEST  
23 AND -- BUT I THOUGHT IT HAD A GOOD CHANCE AND I WAS -- I WAS  
24 SO THRILLED WHEN IT WON. AND IT'S JUST AMAZING HOW YOUR TRAILS  
25 CAN GO THROUGH THE URBAN AREAS AND THEY GO FOR MILES AND MILES



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1 AND MILES, IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU CAN START IN LONG BEACH AND  
2 TAKE A HORSEBACK RIDE ALL THE WAY UP TO THE SAN GABRIEL  
3 MOUNTAINS. SO THE C.C.C. IS NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE  
4 OF THAT, AND VOLUNTEERS CAN'T REALLY TAKE CARE OF THAT, YOU  
5 NEED YOUR CREW AND RATHER THAN JUST HAVING OTHER PARK  
6 EMPLOYEES WORK ON IT, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE SOMEBODY DO  
7 IT WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE DOING AND KNOWS WHAT HAS TO BE DONE  
8 AND THEY'RE EXPERIENCED. SO I JUST URGE YOU THAT YOU DON'T CUT  
9 -- MAKE THIS CUT TO SAVE MONEY. IT'S JUST, IT WOULD BE --  
10 WELL, I THINK IT'S SHORTED SIGHTED AND THAT THE LOSS WOULD BE  
11 TREMENDOUS, IT'S BEEN SO MANY YEARS TO DEVELOP THIS TRAIL  
12 SYSTEM, AND YOU COULD JUST LOSE IT ALL. THE TRAILS WOULD GET  
13 TO WHERE THEY'RE NOT SAFE AND THEN THEY WOULD BE CLOSED AND  
14 THEN THEY WOULD BE GONE AND YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET THEM  
15 BACK. SO I THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME.

16

17 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

18

19 **ROSA LAVEAGA:** GOOD MORNING MADAM CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE  
20 BOARD. MY NAME IS ROSA LAVEAGA, AND I AM HERE REPRESENTING THE  
21 CITY OF PASADENA AND THE COMMUNITY THAT I SERVE. I AM THE  
22 SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE ARROYO SECO IN PASADENA AND I WORK FOR  
23 THE PARKS AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF THE CITY. I'M  
24 RESPONSIBLE FOR A 12-MILE CORRIDOR OF BEAUTIFUL NATURAL OPEN  
25 SPACE COMPRISING OVER 3,000 ACRES AT THE WESTERN EDGE OF



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1 PASADENA. IT IS A CORRIDOR THAT PROVIDES AN INCREDIBLE SYSTEM  
2 OF HIKING AND EQUESTRIAN TRAILS WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, AND  
3 BELIEVE ME, IT IS A CORRIDOR THAT HAS EXTENSIVE AND GROWING  
4 RECREATIONAL USAGE. PASADENA'S TRAIL SYSTEM LINKS TO AN EVEN  
5 LARGER SYSTEM OF TRAILS TO THE NORTH, LEADING TRAIL USERS TO  
6 THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, INTO ALTA DENA AND OTHER  
7 UNINCORPORATED COUNTY TERRITORY TO THE EAST AS WELL AS THE  
8 TRAILS OF LA CANADA, FLINTRIDGE, GLENDALE, AND UNINCORPORATED  
9 COUNTY TERRITORY TO THE WEST. MY RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE THE  
10 PLANNING OF TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS AND I ALSO OVERSEE THE  
11 MAINTENANCE CREWS OF THE TRAIL SYSTEM IN PASADENA. SO I LIVE  
12 MAINTENANCE DAILY. I HAVE HIRED C.C.C. GROUPS. I AGREE WITH  
13 THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS THAT FOR THE MONEY, YOUR CREW IS  
14 INCREDIBLE. WHAT THEY DO WITH THE BUDGET THAT THEY HAVE IS  
15 INCREDIBLE. I HAVE WORKED SIDE BY SIDE WITH THE C.C.C. IS,  
16 THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO RUN HEAVY EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THIS KIND  
17 OF WORK, NOR -- THEY'RE YOUNG PEOPLE, THEY NEED CONSTANT  
18 SUPERVISION AND THE EFFORT IS GREATER THAN THE VALUE THAT YOU  
19 GET AT THE END OF THE JOB, BELIEVE ME. I HAVE HAD CLOSE  
20 INTERACTION WITH THE COUNTY RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION  
21 OF THE COUNTY AND THEY HAVE PROVIDED THE CITY OF PASADENA  
22 GREAT SERVICE. THE DIVISION HAS EXPERIENCE AND EQUIPMENT THAT  
23 IS ONE OF A KIND. MY OPERATION WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO  
24 REPLICATE WHAT THIS DIVISION PROVIDES FOR PASADENA AND OUR  
25 REGION, BOTH IN KNOWLEDGE AND EQUIPMENT. LOSING THIS DIVISION



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1 WOULD HAVE A GREAT IMPACT ON THE CITY OF PASADENA. WE'VE BEEN  
2 WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE WRITING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION,  
3 SUPERVISOR, ON A SPECIFIC PROJECT IN PASADENA ON THE EASTERN  
4 EDGE OF THE ARROYO NEAR THE ROSE BOWL. A SERIOUS COMMITMENT  
5 HAS BEEN MADE BETWEEN OUR TWO OPERATIONS TO RESTORE A  
6 SIGNIFICANT LENGTH OF TRAIL THAT IS CURRENTLY CLOSED AND  
7 POSING A GREAT HAZARD TO THE USERS OF THAT TRAIL. THERE IS NO  
8 WAY MY CREWS WOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THAT WORK WITHOUT OUR  
9 INTENDED PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS  
10 DIVISION OF THE COUNTY. EVERY GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY GOES THROUGH  
11 BUDGET CUTS AND BUDGET INCREASES. THIS PARTICULAR DIVISION OF  
12 THE COUNTY SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN CUT DURING CRUNCH TIMES TIME AND  
13 TIME AGAIN AND THEY ARE NOW A SKELETAL CREW. YET WHAT THIS  
14 OPERATION GETS ACCOMPLISHED, AS I SAY, WITH ABOUT \$450,000, AS  
15 I UNDERSTAND IT, IS QUITE INCREDIBLE. AS I SAY, I KNOW  
16 MAINTENANCE. I DEAL WITH IT DAILY IN PASADENA. MAINTENANCE CAN  
17 BE A DRAIN TO A GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, BUT THIS DIVISION OF THE  
18 COUNTY, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, ACTUALLY BRINGS REVENUE TO THE  
19 COUNTY. I WANT TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT WHEN PASADENA PARTNERS  
20 WITH THE RIDING AND HIKING TRAILS DIVISION, IT IS NOT FOR  
21 FREE. WE WOULD HAVE A CHOICE OF PAYING A CONTRACTOR, WE WOULD  
22 HAVE THE CHOICE OF PAYING THE C.C.C. IS, BUT WE IN THIS  
23 INSTANCE WOULD PAY THE COUNTY MUCH LIKE A CONTRACTOR BUT AT A  
24 REDUCED FEE AND WE GET THE VERY SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE. SO THIS  
25 OPERATION DOES BRING REVENUE TO THE COUNTY COFFERS. PASADENA





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1 WANTS TO HELP OUT. ONE OF THE PARKS I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR  
2 CURRENTLY AT THE NORTH END OF OUR ARROYO KNOWN AS JA JAMUNGA,  
3 IT USED TO BE OAK GROVE PARK, OPERATED BY THE COUNTY. THERE IS  
4 A SMALL MAINTENANCE YARD THAT WE'VE LEFT FOR THE HIKING AND  
5 TRAILS DIVISION. WE SOON WILL BE ACQUIRING A LARGE AREA IN THE  
6 CITY THAT CAN PROVIDE AN EVEN LARGER YARD AREA FOR YOUR  
7 DIVISION AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY, BECAUSE PASADENA KNOWS WHAT  
8 SERVICE THE COUNTY TRAILS DIVISION BRINGS TO OUR REGION. I ASK  
9 YOU TO NOT BE SHORTSIGHTED, TO MAKE A RESPONSIBLE CHOICE FOR  
10 THE USERS OF THE TRAILS. THIS IS LARGELY A SAFETY ISSUE. A  
11 VOTE TO ELIMINATE THIS DIVISION AND THE VALUE IT BRINGS TO THE  
12 COUNTY AND CITIES, LIKE MY CITY, IS A DECISION THAT WILL  
13 ENSURE UNSAFE TRAILS THAT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE MAINTAINED  
14 AND THAT WILL CREATE HAZARDOUS AND UNSAFE CONDITIONS, NOT ONLY  
15 FOR COUNTY TRAILS USERS, BUT THE VAST NUMBER OF USERS FROM MY  
16 CITY AND OTHER SURROUNDING CITIES WHO HAVE TRAIL SYSTEMS THAT  
17 CONNECT TO THE COUNTY TRAIL SYSTEM. I ASK YOU TO PLEASE AVOID  
18 THESE UNNECESSARY FUTURE LIABILITIES. THERE IS A GREAT  
19 MOMENTUM AT THIS TIME ACROSS THE STATE FOR WATERSHED  
20 PRESERVATION, OPEN SPACE CONSERVATION, AND TRAIL RESTORATION,  
21 AND MY CITY IS NOT ALONE, I'M SURE, AMONGST OTHER AGENCIES,  
22 INCLUDING THE COUNTY, TO BE IN RECEIPT OF FUNDING FOR PROJECTS  
23 THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THIS MOMENTUM. WE HAVE NEW TRAIL PROJECTS  
24 AND BRIDGE RESTORATION PROJECTS THAT RESURRECT HISTORIC TRAIL  
25 CROSSINGS THAT WILL GREATLY ENHANCE TRAIL ACCESS FOR HIKERS



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1 AND EQUESTRIANS AND IT MAKES NO SENSE TO ME THAT COMMUNITIES  
2 LIKE MINE WILL BE MAKING THESE IMPROVEMENTS AND LEADING THE  
3 RECREATIONAL USERS TO COUNTY TRAIL AREAS THAT WILL NOT BE  
4 PROPERLY MAINTAINED. HAVING ANOTHER DIVISION OF THE COUNTY  
5 ABSORB THE MAINTENANCE TASKS OF AN ELIMINATED HIKING AND  
6 TRAILS DIVISION IS NOT THE ANSWER. THIS IS SPECIALIZED WORK.  
7 I'VE BEEN IN THIS INDUSTRY FOR NEARLY 18 YEARS WORKING WITH  
8 TRAILS FOR ABOUT THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, AND I NEVER THOUGHT  
9 THAT THIS KIND OF WORK WAS SPECIALIZED, BUT IT TRULY IS. THIS  
10 IS SPECIALIZED WORK THAT COULD NOT POSSIBLY BE DONE BY ANOTHER  
11 DIVISION THAT IS ALREADY IMPACTED, I WOULD IMAGINE, IN THEIR  
12 WORKLOAD.

13

14 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** OKAY.

15

16 **ROSA LAVEAGA:** THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME THIS MORNING. THE CITY  
17 OF PASADENA ASKS YOU THAT YOU NOT ELIMINATE THE RIDING AND  
18 HIKING TRAILS DIVISION OF THE COUNTY. THANK YOU.

19

20 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU ROSA, DEBORAH. LET ME ALSO CALL UP  
21 BOB LEWIS AND TERE TUCKER. DEBORAH?

22

23 **DEBORAH STEVENS:** HI. MY NAME IS DEBORAH STEVENS. I'M FROM THE  
24 ANTELOPE VALLEY. EVERYBODY SEEMS TO HAVE COVERED EVERYTHING  
25 QUITE ELOQUENTLY. THERE'S A -- I'M WITH THE ANTELOPE VALLEY



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1 TRAILS RECREATION ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL. WE DO SOME TRAIL  
2 MAINTENANCE, WE PUSH FORWARD WITH THE REGIONAL COUNTY TRAIL  
3 SYSTEM, WE'VE ENJOYED IT. WE'RE HOPING TO HAVE MORE TRAILS  
4 BUILT OUT IN OUR AREA AND WITH THE POPULATION INCREASE, WE'RE  
5 HOPING TO GET THE TRAILS BUILT. WHO WILL MAINTAIN THEM? PUBLIC  
6 WORKS DOESN'T DO THAT, CALTRANS DOESN'T DO THAT AT ALL. WE  
7 HAVE MAJOR HIGHWAY CROSSINGS, WE HAVE THINGS THAT ARE VERY  
8 IMPORTANT, THE OPEN SPACE AND -- THAT WE HAVE NOW WON'T ALWAYS  
9 BE THERE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT THE MAINTENANCE IS EXTREMELY  
10 IMPORTANT. WE'RE NOT EQUIPPED, NONE OF US HAVE TRACTORS AND  
11 BULLDOZERS AND WE AREN'T THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WE CAN'T  
12 BUILD THESE -- REBUILD THESE CROSSINGS TIME AND TIME AGAIN. I  
13 SEE EVERY YEAR PARKS AND RECREATION GETS CUT BACK FURTHER AND  
14 FURTHER. I KNOW THEY GOT A LOT OF MONEY THIS YEAR FOR TRAILS,  
15 200 MILLION. THEY BUILD THE TRAILS, WHO'S GOING TO MAINTAIN  
16 THEM? A WASTING OF MORE TAX DOLLARS DOESN'T SEEM BENEFICIAL.  
17 THE SMALL AMOUNT IT COSTS FOR THIS MAINTENANCE CREW, WE'D LIKE  
18 TO KEEP. MOST OF US IN THE ANTELOPE VALLEY PAY EXTREMELY HIGH  
19 TAXES. FOR EXAMPLE, WITH THE PROP A FUND, WE WERE TOLD THAT IT  
20 WOULD BE \$12 PER SINGLE DWELLING FAMILY HOUSEHOLD. WELL, ON A  
21 2-1/2-ACRE LOT, YOU PAY \$98.69C FOR PROP A. WE DIDN'T REALIZE  
22 THAT WHEN WE SAID "YES" ON THAT, AND WE DIDN'T REALIZE THAT WE  
23 WOULDN'T -- THAT I LIVE IN A COMMUNITY THAT'S ONE OF THE  
24 HIGHEST PAYING TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS IN THE STATE AND WE  
25 HAVE THE LEAST AMOUNT OF SERVICES. WE DON'T MIND ALL THAT, BUT



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1 WE DO NEED THE TRAILS, AND WE HOPE THAT YOU'LL KEEP THEM OPEN  
2 FOR US. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, DEBORAH. GOOD MORNING, BOB.

5

6 **BOB LEWIS:** MORNING. MY NAME IS BOB LEWIS, I'M THE PRESIDENT OF  
7 THE CASTAIC AREA TOWN COUNCIL. FIRST OF ALL JUST REAL BRIEFLY  
8 I'D LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL THE SUPERVISORS FOR TAKING  
9 THE TIME FOR THIS PUBLIC HEARING. WE IN CASTAIC DO KNOW THAT  
10 THE PROCESS WORKS. LAST YEAR WHEN WE BROUGHT THE TRACK WASH  
11 ISSUE TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, YOU LISTENED TO OUR  
12 COMMUNITY AND YOU SUPPORTED THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND  
13 WE DO APPRECIATE THAT. I AM HERE TODAY TO TALK ABOUT THE  
14 RETURN OF CASTAIC LAKE TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA. THE FIRST  
15 THING THAT I'D LIKE TO PRESENT TO YOU IS I HAVE A STACK OF  
16 PETITIONS HERE OF 1,056 SIGNATURES THAT WERE RECEIVED OVER THE  
17 WEEKEND. THE PETITION READS, "AS TAXPAYERS OF L.A. COUNTY WHO  
18 USE CASTAIC LAKE FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AMONGST WHICH  
19 INCLUDES BOATING, FISHING, SWIMMING, HIKING, BIKING, HORSEBACK  
20 RIDING, PICNICS, ENJOYING NATURE AND WILDLIFE, WE ARE  
21 ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO TURNING THE OPERATION OF THE LAKE OVER TO  
22 THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AS A WAY OF BALANCING THE BUDGET OF  
23 L.A. COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. THE RESULT OF  
24 THIS ACTION WILL BE GREATLY CURTAILED SERVICES AND POSSIBLY  
25 CLOSURE OF THE LAKE AND A LARGE NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON



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1 THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN CASTAIC, RESULTING IN A LOSS OF  
2 SALES TAX INCOME TO THE COUNTY AND A LOSS OF PROPERTY VALUE TO  
3 THE HOMEOWNERS BY REMOVING ONE OF THE LARGEST REGIONAL PARKS  
4 IN THE NORTHERN PORTION OF L.A. COUNTY, YOU ARE DENYING US  
5 ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PAID FOR BY OUR TAX DOLLARS.  
6 AND WE HAD OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE SIGN THAT PETITION. IN  
7 ADDITION, AT THE APRIL 16TH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING, DON ALLEN,  
8 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL FACILITIES FOR L.A. COUNTY  
9 DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION MADE A PRESENTATION IN  
10 REGARDS TO THE PROPOSAL TO TURNING OVER THE OPERATION OF  
11 CASTAIC LAKE RECREATION AREA TO THE STATE. AFTER LENGTHY  
12 DISCUSSIONS REGARDING THIS MATTER AND ALSO DETERMINING THAT  
13 THE 3.1 MILLION FIGURE THAT WAS BEING TOUTED AS A SAVINGS IN  
14 THE RETURNING OF THE LAKE AND THE PLACERITA CANYON CENTER, WE  
15 DISCOVERED THAT THE OUT OF POCKET OPERATING EXPENSE TO THE  
16 COUNTY FOR CASTAIC LAKE IS \$1,774,406 NOT 3.1. YES, THAT'S A  
17 LARGE AMOUNT. YES, WE ARE IN A POSITION WHERE CUTS DO NEED TO  
18 BE MADE BY THE COUNTY, BUT WE THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT  
19 ACCURATE FIGURES BE DISCUSSED. THE COUNCIL VOTED BY UNANIMOUS  
20 VOTE TO ADAMANTLY OPPOSE THE PROPOSAL FOR THE FOLLOWING  
21 REASONS. THERE IS NO GUARANTEE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STATE  
22 AS TO MAINTAINING SERVICE AT THE LAKE THAT WOULD KEEP IT OPEN  
23 AND FUNCTIONING AT THE LEVEL THAT IS CURRENTLY OFFERED BY THE  
24 COUNTY. I CALLED ASSEMBLYMAN STRICKLAND'S OFFICE THIS MORNING  
25 TO GET AN UPDATE. THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA PARKS AND RECS



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1 DEPARTMENT SAID THAT IF THE COUNTY DOES TURN THE LAKE OVER,  
2 THAT OBVIOUSLY THEY WOULDN'T WALK AWAY FROM IT, BUT THEY HAVE  
3 ZERO, ZERO FUNDS IN THE CURRENT BUDGET COMING UP FOR NEXT YEAR  
4 THAT CURRENTLY COULD BE IDENTIFIED FOR USE AT THE LAKE, AND IF  
5 THEY DID TAKE OVER THE LAKE OPERATIONS, THEY WOULD SEVERELY  
6 CURTAIL SERVICES. WE ALSO OPPOSED IT BECAUSE OF THE STRONG  
7 NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACT THIS ACTION WOULD HAVE ON THE  
8 BUSINESS COMMUNITY ON CASTAIC THAT RELIES ON LAKE VISITORS FOR  
9 BETWEEN 20 TO 40% OF REVENUE. THE NEGATIVE IMPACT THIS  
10 PROPERTY -- ON THE PROPERTY VALUES FOR HOMEOWNERS AND THE LACK  
11 OF A STUDY BY THE COUNTY AS TO THIS IMPACT ON THE BUSINESSES  
12 HOMEOWNERS AND BY NOT FACTORING IN THE LOSS OF SALES TAX  
13 REVENUE TO THE COUNTY, IF THE LAKE IS EITHER CLOSED OR  
14 OPERATED AT DIMINISHED LEVELS. WE FEEL THAT JUST RATHER THAN  
15 TAKING A LOOK AT THE 1.7 MILLION SAVINGS THAT THE PARKS AND  
16 RECS WOULD HAVE IN THEIR BUDGET, THAT YOU HAVE TO COUNTER  
17 BALANCE THAT BY THE AMOUNT OF REVENUE -- SALES TAX REVENUE  
18 THAT IS GENERATED BY VISITORS TO THE LAKE TO BOTH THE COUNTY  
19 AND THE STATE. IF YOU DON'T DO THAT, YOU MIGHT BE ENDING UP  
20 SHOOTING YOURSELF IN THE FOOT OF SAVING 1.7 IN ONE AREA AND  
21 LOSING A GREATER SUBSTANTIAL DOLLAR AMOUNT THAT GOES TO THE  
22 COUNTY GENERAL FUND. NOBODY HAS LOOKED AT THAT FIGURE. WE HAVE  
23 FOUR BOAT SALES AND SERVICE BUSINESSES IN CASTAIC THAT WOULD  
24 BE SEVERELY IMPACTED AND HAVE INDICATED THAT MOST LIKELY THE  
25 RESULT OF THIS ACTION IS CLOSURE OF ALL FOUR BUSINESSES AND





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1 ANOTHER DIMINISHING OF REVENUES TO THE COUNTY. WE ALSO FEEL  
2 THAT THE COUNTY HAS NOW LOOKED HARD ENOUGH AT WAYS TO INCREASE  
3 REVENUE BY THE LAKE BY EITHER INCREASING FEES, CHARGING FOR  
4 ACCESS TO THE SWIM BEACHES FOR LIFEGUARD SERVICES, OR THE  
5 CREATIVE PURSUIT OF OUTSIDE VENDORS OR OTHER USES OF THE LAKE,  
6 SUCH AS MUSICAL EVENTS, FISHING TOURNAMENTS, MOUNTAIN BIKE  
7 RACES, BOAT SHOWS, ET CETERA, TO INCREASE REVENUES. AND BY THE  
8 WAY, I'D LIKE TO POINT OUT THIS IS SOMETHING THAT WAS DONE AT  
9 THE LAKE IN THE PAST AND WAS DISCONTINUED. THE COUNTY HAS ALSO  
10 NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THAT CASTAIC LAKE, ALL 8,800 ACRES OF  
11 THIS REGIONAL PARK IS THE LARGEST LAKE IN THE COUNTY SYSTEM  
12 AND IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF PROVIDING UNIQUE RECREATIONAL  
13 ACTIVITIES TO RESIDENTS OF ALL L.A. COUNTY. LAST YEAR THE LAKE  
14 HAD CLOSE TO 800,000 VISITORS. THAT IN THEIR SEARCH FOR AREAS  
15 TO CUT, THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARKS AND RECREATION IS UNFAIRLY  
16 PUTTING THE BRUNT OF THE CUT-BACKS ON ONE AREA RATHER THAN  
17 DISTRIBUTING THE REDUCTIONS EVENLY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. BY  
18 CUTTING CASTAIC LAKE OUT OF THE COUNTY'S PARK AND RECREATION  
19 PROGRAM, THE COUNTY IS IN EFFECT CUTTING OUT A JEWEL IN ITS  
20 BALANCE OF RECREATIONAL CHOICES FOR RESIDENTS IN SOUTHERN  
21 CALIFORNIA AND WILL CAUSE IRREPARABLE HARM TO THE CASTAIC  
22 COMMUNITY. IN CLOSING I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT TURNING IT  
23 BACK TO THE STATE IS A DE-FACTO CLOSURE OF THE LAKE, AND IS A  
24 DE-FACTO CLOSURE OF OUR COMMUNITY. I MEAN, THE LAKE IS OUR  
25 COMMUNITY. THE LAKE IS OUR SOURCE OF REVENUE. IT'S THE



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1 EQUIVALENT OF SAYING, "WE'VE BEEN RIDING THIS FOUR-LEGGED  
2 HORSE FOR ALL THESE YEARS, WE'RE GIVING IT BACK TO YOU, BUT BY  
3 THE WAY, WE'RE REMOVING TWO LEGS.' IT'S STILL A HORSE, BUT  
4 IT'S BASICALLY USELESS. THANK YOU.

5

6 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, BOB. TERE?

7

8 **TERE TUCKER:** HI MY NAME IS TERE TUCKER, AND I'M THE CASTAIC  
9 AREA TOWN COUNCIL SECRETARY AND PARKS AND RECREATION CHAIR.  
10 I'M ALSO A MEMBER OF THE CASTAIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, FRIENDS  
11 OF THE LAKE, AND SERVE AS CHAIR FOR THE LAKE VISION COMMITTEE.  
12 AGAIN, AS BOB HAS SAID, I'M NOT GOING TO REITERATE WHAT HE'S  
13 TALKED ABOUT, BUT AS BOB HAS SAID, WE'RE ALREADY SET TO RAISE  
14 MONEY FOR THE LAKE, BUT WHAT I FEEL LIKE IT WILL ALSO TAKE IS  
15 A COMMITMENT FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO DO  
16 THIS. AMONG OTHER WAYS TO RAISE MONEY, LIKE HE SAID, CONCERTS  
17 IN THE PARK. IN ADDITION TO WHAT MR. LEWIS HAS SAID, I'D LIKE  
18 TO TALK ABOUT THE PROPERTY VALUES IN THE -- IN CASTAIC, WHERE  
19 IF THERE'S A REVENUE LOSS OF THE PROPERTY VALUES, THAT MEANS  
20 PROPERTY TAXES COULD GO DOWN AND THERE WOULD BE A LOSS OF  
21 PROPERTY TAXES TO THE COUNTY AS WELL AS THE REVENUE FROM THE  
22 BUSINESSES AROUND TOWN. I WOULD LIKE THE SUPERVISORS TO THINK  
23 ABOUT THE REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY NORTH LAKE BEING  
24 BUILT OUT, THIS IS AN ADDITIONAL 3900 HOMES THAT SUN CAL AND  
25 NORTH LAKE L.L.C. ARE CURRENTLY IN NEGOTIATIONS OVER. I'VE



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1 HEARD THAT SUN CAL MIGHT WALK AWAY FROM THIS PROJECT IF THE  
2 COUNTY WALKS AWAY FROM THE LAKE. I THINK THAT WOULD BE VERY  
3 DETRIMENTAL TO CASTAIC LAKE AS THEY'RE ALSO PUTTING IN AN  
4 INDUSTRIAL CENTER IN THAT COMMUNITY UP THERE. THE OTHER THING  
5 IS IS I DON'T UNDERSTAND AGAIN WHY THE -- LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
6 PARKS AND RECREATION CANNOT SPREAD OUT THE CUTS WITHIN THE  
7 COUNTY RATHER THAN TAKE OUT THE TWO PARKS OF REGION FIVE AND  
8 BOTH PARKS IN THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY. CASTAIC IS AN  
9 UNINCORPORATED OF LOS ANGELES THAT SUPPLIES THE COUNTY WITH  
10 MORE TAX DOLLARS THAN IT RECEIVES IN SERVICES. WE ARE NOT JUST  
11 A TREK TOWN. WE HAVE OVER 20,000 RESIDENTS THAT PAY TAXES AND  
12 PROPERTY TAXES. EVEN GENERAL MOTORS HAS RECOGNIZED CASTAIC AS  
13 A PREFERRED SITE TO BUILD THEIR NEW G.M. MR. GOOD WRENCH  
14 CENTER. THERE'S MANY EXISTING AND NEW SHOPPING MALLS AND  
15 INDUSTRIAL CENTERS, INCLUDING THE VALENCIA GATEWAY CENTER  
16 WHICH IS LOCATED IN CASTAIC. SIMPLY STATED, THESE BUSINESSES  
17 GENERATE TAXES THAT DON'T STAY IN CASTAIC AND ARE BEING USED  
18 TO SUPPLEMENT SERVICES IN OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTY. SOMETIMES  
19 CUTTING BUDGET DOLLARS FOR SERVICES THAT PROVIDE ECONOMIC  
20 STIMULUS TO OTHER SOURCES OF TAXABLE DOLLARS DOESN'T MAKE  
21 FINANCIAL SENSE. I WOULD ASK YOU NOT TO BE SHORTSIGHTED IN  
22 YOUR DECISION TO CLOSE CASTAIC LAKE OR YOU MAY FIND THAT  
23 CASTAIC LAKE IS JUST A START OF PARK CLOSINGS IN THE COUNTY.  
24 THIS WOULD CREATE A TERRIBLE INCREASE IN CRIME. CHILDREN AND  
25 ADULTS ALIKE NEED SOMETHING TO DO AND A PLACE TO GO, WHETHER



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1 IT'S PICNICKING, BOATING, SKIING, HIKING, FISHING OR JUST  
2 TAKING A NICE WALK WITH THEIR FAMILY THROUGH THE PARK. THE  
3 PLACERITA NATURE CENTER AND THE CASTAIC LAKE PROVIDES THIS FOR  
4 ADULTS AND CHILDREN ALIKE. THE COST OF THESE EXPERIENCES ARE  
5 PRICELESS. I'VE ALSO ATTENDED MEETINGS WHERE THE PARKS AND  
6 RECREATION ARE PAYING INDEPENDENT CONSULTANTS TO HOLD MEETINGS  
7 ASKING THE PUBLIC WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE IMPROVED.  
8 INSTEAD OF DOING THIS, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE USE THIS  
9 MONEY TO MAINTAIN THE PARKS AND RECREATIONS THAT WE HAVE AND  
10 THAT IT TO BUILD -- AND RATHER THAN BUILD MORE PARKS OR TRYING  
11 TO FIX SOME THINGS THAT WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY FOR. I'D ALSO  
12 LIKE TO READ A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, IT IS TO  
13 MR. MIKE ANTONOVICH, LOS ANGELES SUPERVISOR. 'DEAR MR.  
14 ANTONOVICH, THIS LETTER IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE CASTAIC  
15 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OPPOSES THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
16 DECISIONS TO TURN THE OPERATIONS OF CASTAIC LAKE BACK TO THE  
17 STATE WITHOUT ANY GUARANTEE OF SERVICE. THIS ECONOMIC IMPACT  
18 ON THE MAJORITY OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES WOULD BE A POSSIBLE  
19 LOSS OF 25 TO 30% OF SALES. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD  
20 LIKE TO SPEAK TO ME, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO GIVE ME A CALL,' AND  
21 HE LISTS HIS NUMBER, AND THIS IS SIGNED 'SINCERELY, TRACY  
22 JARRA, CHAMBER PRESIDENT.'

23  
24 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.



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1   **TERE TUCKER:** I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYBODY FOR LISTENING TO OUR  
2   PROPOSALS TODAY AND PLEASE TAKE ALL THIS INTO CONSIDERATION.

3

4   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU, TERE. HEIDI WEBBER AND BILL  
5   WEBBER.

6

7   **HEIDI WEBBER:** SOON AS I GET MY PAPER OUT HERE, OKAY, I'M HEIDI  
8   WEBBER, AND I AM THE TREASURER OF THE PLACERITA CANYON NATURE  
9   CENTER ASSOCIATES AND WE'RE ALSO HERE TO ASK FOR MONEY, JUST  
10  LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

11

12  **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE'RE ASKING FOR MONEY, TOO. [ LAUGHTER ]

13

14  **HEIDI WEBBER:** WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT, I'LL GO WITH YOU. [  
15  LAUGHTER ].

16

17  **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THAT'S JUST WHAT WE'RE PLANNING TO DO IN 15  
18  MINUTES.

19

20  **HEIDI WEBBER:** RIGHT. OKAY. WE ARE HERE TO PROTEST THE POSSIBLE  
21  RETURN OF PLACERITA TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR A LOT OF  
22  THE SAME REASONS THAT BOB LEWIS AND THE CONTINGENT FROM  
23  CASTAIC LAKE HAVE JUST SAID. WE ARE A VERY VALUABLE PARK.  
24  WE'RE A 350-ACRE PARK IN THE NORTHERN REGION. AT THIS TIME,  
25  PLACERITA ENJOYS THE ASSISTANCE OF APPROXIMATELY 80 VOLUNTEERS



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1 A MONTH TO HELP RUN THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS. IN APRIL, FOR  
2 EXAMPLE, VOLUNTEERS DONATED 760 HOURS OF TIME, WHICH IS  
3 EQUIVALENT TO OVER \$12,000 IN STRAIGHT WAGES, WHICH FIGURES WE  
4 GOT FROM OUR PARK SUPERVISOR. THAT'S EQUAL TO OVER \$144,000  
5 ANNUALLY IN SAVINGS TO THE COUNTY JUST THROUGH VOLUNTEER  
6 EFFORTS. THEY'RE -- LET'S SEE HERE, THESE ARE VOLUNTEER HOURS  
7 ARE DONATED BY THE P.C.N.C.A. JUNIOR RANGES AND BOY SCOUTS WHO  
8 EARN THEIR EAGLES -- EAGLE BADGES, EAGLE SCOUT BADGES. NOW, WE  
9 HEARD SOME TALKING ABOUT THE TRAIL MAINTENANCE CREWS, AND  
10 FRANKLY, WE DON'T HAVE ANY OF THAT. OUR EAGLE SCOUTS TAKE CARE  
11 OF ALL OF OUR TRAILS AND ALSO VOLUNTEERS. WE HAVE NO COUNTY  
12 OUTPUT ON THAT OTHER THAN WEED WHACKING. LET'S SEE HERE. IN  
13 ADDITION TO DOZENS OF OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY, OVER  
14 16,000 SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM ALL SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS IN L.A.  
15 COUNTY COME TO PLACERITA ON EDUCATIONAL AND FUN SCHOOL TRIPS,  
16 THIS IS RUN BOTH BY THE DOCENTS OF PLACERITA AT NO COST AND BY  
17 THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES AS A PAID PROGRAM, EARNING OVER \$50,000  
18 ANNUALLY. THE SELF-GUIDED SCHOOL GROUPS, THE SCOUTING  
19 ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE HUNDREDS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS WHO ARE  
20 SENT TO OUR PARK BY THEIR PROFESSORS FOR THEIR CLASS  
21 ASSIGNMENTS BRING THE TOTAL NUMBERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG  
22 ADULTS WHO USE THE PARK FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES TO ABOUT  
23 45,000 A YEAR, WITH TOTAL PARK ATTENDANCE BETWEEN 150 AND  
24 200,000 INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES THAT WOULD LOSE ACCESS TO  
25 THIS PARK IF IT IS RETURNED TO THE STATE BECAUSE OF POTENTIAL





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1 CLOSURE. IF THE PARK WERE TO BE RETURNED TO THE STATE AND  
2 SUBSEQUENTLY CLOSED, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS SUCH AS JUNIOR  
3 RANGERS, STUDENT NATURALISTS, HAND IN HAND, YEAR-ROUND NATURE  
4 CAMP, BIRTHDAY PARTIES IN NATURE, FIELD TRIPS IN NATURE, THEY  
5 WOULD CEASE TO EXIST. THESE PROGRAMS GENERATE APPROXIMATELY  
6 \$95,000 A YEAR TO THE COUNTY AND THAT IS SUPPLEMENTED BY  
7 DONATIONS TO THE P.C.N.C.A. AND FUNDRAISERS TO BENEFIT  
8 PLACERITA CANYON. WHEN WE ADD THIS TO THE VALUE OF THE  
9 VOLUNTEER HOURS, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT \$239,000 THAT WOULD BE  
10 GONE FROM THE COUNTY. THIS IS VOLUNTEER HOURS THAT ARE  
11 EQUIVALENT, AND WE'VE BEEN TOLD IT RUNS ABOUT 350,000 A YEAR  
12 TO RUN THE PARK. SO WE ACTUALLY MAKE UP A LARGE AMOUNT OF THAT  
13 JUST IN OUR VOLUNTEER EFFORTS. IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THE  
14 COUNTY PARK SUPERVISOR TOLD US THAT THE SAVINGS TO THE COUNTY  
15 WOULD BE ABOUT \$132,000 IN WAGES IF THE PARK IS GIVEN BACK TO  
16 THE STATE, THIS MAKES NO SENSE BECAUSE THESE WAGES WOULD BE  
17 SPENT ANYWAYS WHEN THESE TWO FULL-TIME AND ONE RECURRING  
18 EMPLOYEE ARE RELOCATED TO OTHER AREAS WITHIN THE PARK SYSTEM.  
19 THE PARK HAS ONLY BEEN WORKING ON TWO FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES. THE  
20 REST ARE PART-TIME, AND THEY ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE RUN THE  
21 ABOVE PROGRAMS ALONG WITH THE VOLUNTEERS. BECAUSE OF THE  
22 CURRENT STAFFING CUTS, THE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES ARE GONE AS ARE  
23 ALL THE REVENUE PRODUCING PROGRAMS EXCEPT FOR THOSE THAT CAN'T  
24 BE CANCELED AND THERE ARE NO NEW ONES BEING SCHEDULED.  
25 PLACERITA PARK IS ALSO A SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL AREA. THE OAK



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1 OF THE GOLDEN DREAM, WHERE GOLD WAS FIRST DISCOVERED IN  
2 CALIFORNIA IS LOCATED IN OUR PARK AND IS A STATE HISTORICAL  
3 LANDMARK. OIL WAS FIRST ALSO DISCOVERED IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA  
4 WITH OIL STILL SHOWING ITSELF IN NATURAL SEEPAGES IN PARTS OF  
5 THE PARK. PLACERITA CANYON PARK HAS BEEN PART OF THE COUNTY  
6 PARK SYSTEM FOR OVER 30 YEARS AND HAS HAD SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
7 UPON TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PERSONS THROUGHOUT LOS ANGELES  
8 COUNTY. IF THE COUNTY CAN'T SEE ITS WAY CLEAR TO FULLY FUND  
9 THE PARK, COULD YOU AT LEAST CONSIDER SHORTER HOURS, FEWER  
10 DAYS? WE'RE OPEN, WE'RE OPEN FOR OPTIONS. WE REALIZE THAT  
11 PLACERITA CANYON IS A STATE-OWNED FACILITY BUT IT HAS ALWAYS  
12 BEEN COUNTY RESIDENTS WHO HAVE BENEFITED FROM ITS PRESENCE  
13 HISTORICALLY, RECREATIONALLY, AND EDUCATIONALLY. THANK YOU.

14

15 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

16

17 **BILL WEBBER:** MY NAME IS BILL WEBBER. I JUST WANT TO SAY IT'D  
18 BE GREAT FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE COUNTY TO KEEP THE PARK OPEN.  
19 THANK YOU.

20

21 **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THAT'S IT?

24



**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WE APPRECIATE YOUR -- ARE YOU, OR DO YOU  
2   KNOW, ARE YOU THE ONLY FACILITY THAT HAS THE EAGLE SCOUTS  
3   INVOLVED WITH YOUR CENTER?

4

5   **HEIDI:** I BELIEVE WE ARE. I'M NOT POSITIVE, BUT I KNOW THAT OUR  
6   83-YEAR-OLD EAGLE SCOUT IN CHARGE OF THE PARKS OR THE TRAIL  
7   MAINTENANCE AND THE EAGLE SCOUTS IS THE ONLY ONE THAT -- HE  
8   WORKS IN OUR PARK AND WE'VE HAD ALMOST 300 EAGLE SCOUTS EARN  
9   THEIR BADGES IN OUR PARK AND ALMOST ALL OF IT -- IT HAS BEEN  
10   DIFFERENT MAINTENANCE, DIFFERENT PROJECT SIGNS, TRAIL  
11   MAINTENANCE, ET CETERA.

12

13   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACILITY, WE KNOW.

14

15   **HEIDI WEBBER:** I'M SORRY?

16

17   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** I SAY YOU HAVE A BEAUTIFUL FACILITY.

18

19   **HEIDI WEBBER:** THANK YOU, WE THINK SO TOO.

20

21   **SUP. ANTONOVICH:** WELL THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING DOWN.

22

23   **HEIDI WEBBER:** OKAY, THANK YOU.

24



**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** KENNETH HAHN PARK USES SCOUTS. I KNOW THAT  
2   THEY GET THEIR EAGLE BADGES THROUGH DESIGNING AND HELPING TO  
3   CLEAR THE TRAILS, AND, OF COURSE, WE ALSO DO HAVE SIERRA CLUB,  
4   A HEAVY PARTICIPATION IN THE CLEARINGS AREA WEEKEND.

5

6   **HEIDI WEBBER:** NO, WE HAVE JUST THE EAGLE SCOUTS AND OUR  
7   VOLUNTEERS.

8

9   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YEAH, HEAVILY THE SIERRA CLUB AND THE  
10   SENIORS THROUGH IT. THANK YOU.

11

12   **HEIDI WEBBER:** THANK YOU.

13

14   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WE WOULD NOW LIKE TO CALL UP GREGORY  
15   ROBERTS. AND THEN WE'LL GO TO THE 660 GROUP. IS MR. ROBERTS  
16   HERE?

17

18   **SPEAKER:** NOT HERE.

19

20   **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY. WE'LL NOW TAKE THE 660. WE'LL CALL --  
21   I'D LIKE TO ASK THE ENTIRE GROUP TO COME UP. DO YOU MIND DOING  
22   THAT? ANELLE REJEDA, TANYA AKEL, SHIRLEY CARTER, AND RAMON  
23   RUBALCAVA. WE CAN BRING IS IT, HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL IT BE?  
24   FOUR OR FIVE?

25



**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 **SPEAKER:** FIVE.

2

3 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF WE BRING TWO MORE CHAIRS THERE, WELL  
4 ACTUALLY -- OKAY CAN SIT IT THERE AND THEN WE CAN MAKE IT ONE  
5 PRESENTATION. HOW LONG DO YOU ANTICIPATE YOUR PRESENTATION  
6 WILL BE? HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOUR PRESENTATION IS GOING TO  
7 BE? HOW LONG?

8

9 **KATHY OCHOA:** 20 MINUTES. 15 MINUTES, AT LEAST.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN YOU TRY AND DO IT IN 15?

12

13 **SPEAKER:** WE WILL TRY, SUPERVISOR.

14

15 **SPEAKER:** I VOLUNTEER NOT TO SPEAK. [ LAUGHTER ].

16

17 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF YOU CAN TRY TO DO IT IN 15, IT WOULD BE  
18 VERY HELPFUL TO US. THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET IS GOING TO BE  
19 RELEASED IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES, BUT WE WILL WAIT TO HEAR ABOUT  
20 IT LATER AFTER WE --

21

22 **SPEAKER:** YOU GO FIRST.

23

24 **KATHY OCHOA:** YEAH, GOOD AFTERNOON, SUPERVISORS. MY NAME IS  
25 KATHY OCHOA AND I'M HERE REPRESENTING S.E.I.U. LOCAL 660 AND



**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 ADDRESSING THE BUDGET PROPOSALS THAT AFFECT THE DEPARTMENT OF  
2 HEALTH SERVICES. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS YOU  
3 TODAY. THESE ARE SOME SERIOUS BUDGET AND HEALTH CHALLENGES  
4 THAT WE FACE. WELL, OF COURSE FOR THE UNION WORKFORCE ISSUES  
5 ARE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT AND OUR PRIMARY FIDUCIARY OBLIGATION.  
6 WE SHARE AN OVERRIDING CONCERN WITH THE COMMUNITY THAT THERE  
7 MUST BE A HIGH QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE AND STABLE HEALTHCARE  
8 DELIVERY SYSTEM WITHIN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THAT THE BUDGET  
9 BE ORIENTED TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE  
10 SIGNIFICANT LIMITATIONS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE THE  
11 TYPE OF CARE WE WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE AND IN THAT VEIN, WE  
12 STAND READY TO WORK WITH THE COUNTY, THE STATE, AND OTHER  
13 INTERESTED PARTIES TO REFORM AND MODERNIZE OUR SYSTEM AND  
14 REMAIN MINDFUL OF THESE CONSTRAINTS. BEFORE FOCUSING ON SOME  
15 VERY SPECIFIC ISSUES, WE THINK IT'S IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE  
16 THAT IMPORTANT BUDGET DECISIONS IN THIS AREA MUST BE MADE  
17 WITHIN THE TEXT OF A SHARED VISION, A RESOURCE AVAILABILITY  
18 AND DESIRED HEALTHCARE DELIVERY OUTCOMES. IN ADDITION TO SOME  
19 SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE COUNTY D.H.S. REDESIGN PLAN  
20 CODIFIED IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET, WE HOPE THAT THIS IN FUTURE  
21 DISCUSSIONS WILL BRING US CLOSER TO BUILDING A CONSENSUS ABOUT  
22 THE TYPE OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY SYSTEM WE NEED FOR LOS ANGELES  
23 COUNTY. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT UNILATERAL DECISIONS MADE IN A  
24 VACUUM WITHOUT THIS VISION MAY ALL TOO EASILY AND EVENTUALLY  
25 BE CONDEMNED TO FAILURE. IT IS CRITICAL TO TAKE THE TIME NOW





**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 TO ENSURE THAT A THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE REASSESSMENT OF  
2 THE BOARD MANDATED SERVICE REDUCTIONS ON PATIENT CARE THROUGH  
3 THE DEPARTMENT IS STRATEGIC PLAN BE UNDERTAKEN. IN FACT, SINCE  
4 THE REDUCTIONS DESCRIBED BY DR. GARTHWAITE WERE FIRST ADOPTED  
5 BY THE BOARD IN JUNE 2002, ADDITIONAL RESOURCES HAVE BEEN  
6 RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY THROUGH THE PROCEEDS OF MEASURE B AND  
7 THE FEBRUARY 2003 FEDERAL AND STATE AGREEMENT ON L.A. COUNTY  
8 HEALTH. THIS PROVIDES US WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO REDESIGN THE  
9 REDESIGN. THEREFORE, WE URGE YOU TO ADOPT ONLY THE STATUS QUO  
10 PROVISIONS OF THE BUDGET DURING THE FINAL BUDGET DELIBERATIONS  
11 UNTIL THIS PROCESS HAS BEEN CONCLUDED. THE PLANNED CLOSURE OF  
12 HIGH DESERT, THE CLOSURE OR PRIVATIZATION OF RANCHO LOS AMIGOS  
13 NATIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, THE REDUCTIONS OF SERVICES AT KING  
14 DREW MEDICAL CENTER AND THE 100-BED REDUCTION AT L.A.C. U.S.C.  
15 ARE POLICY PRESCRIPTIONS THAT WOULD IMPOSE MAJOR AND EVEN  
16 LIFE-THREATENING ACCESS BARRIERS TO CARE AND MAY RESULT IN  
17 ADDITIONAL COST, NOT SAVINGS, TO THE COUNTY. WITH RESPECT TO  
18 THE CLOSURE OF RANCHO, THIS IS NOT ABOUT CLOSING A HIGH-COST  
19 FACILITY. RANCHO IS EFFICIENTLY OPERATED AND COMPARABLE TO  
20 OTHER REHAB FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRY. THIS IS NOT ABOUT THE  
21 ELIMINATION OF UNNECESSARY SERVICES. THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT  
22 CAPACITY AT OTHER FACILITIES TO PICK UP THE LOAD. THE  
23 PROJECTED SAVINGS FROM CLOSING RANCHO AND AS EXPRESSED IN THE  
24 BUDGET ARE LIKELY TO ILLUSORY. OTHER COUNTY FACILITIES AS WELL  
25 AS PRIVATE FACILITIES WILL SEE INCREASED UTILIZATION BY FORMER



**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 AND POTENTIAL RANCHO PATIENTS IN NEED OF MORE COSTLY SERVICES.  
2 INSTEAD OF ELIMINATING THE BURDEN OF COST, THE COUNTY PROPOSAL  
3 SIMPLY SHIFTS THEM. S.E.I.U. LOCAL 660 BELIEVES THAT THE REAL  
4 ISSUE AT HAND IS NOT RANCHO, BUT RATHER FINANCING THE PUBLIC  
5 HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET IN L.A. COUNTY. THEREFORE S.E.I.U.  
6 LOCAL 660 IS EXAMINING THE DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF  
7 DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE HOSPITAL FUNDS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY.  
8 WE BELIEVE THAT WITH MINOR ADJUSTMENTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
9 THESE FUNDS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES, A DEDICATED  
10 FUND CAN BE CREATED FOR RANCHO'S ONGOING NEEDS. IN SHORT,  
11 CLOSING RANCHO IS A DRASTIC STEP THAT CAN'T BE EASILY UNDONE.  
12 WE URGE YOU TO WORK WITH US TO EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES FOR  
13 REVENUE IMPROVEMENT BEFORE ADOPTING NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET. AND I  
14 WOULD JUST LIKE TO RECOGNIZE RIGHT NOW THE PATIENTS AT RANCHO  
15 WHO CAMPED OUT FOR 45 DAYS IN AN ACT OF PEACEFUL CIVIL  
16 DISOBEDIENCE TO BRING ATTENTION TO THEIR CONCERNS ABOUT THE  
17 CONTINUITY OF CARE AT THAT FACILITY. WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED  
18 CHANGES AT HIGH DESERT, A PILOT HAS BEEN UNDERWAY TO ANALYZE  
19 IF PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES AND THE  
20 STATE CAN BE ESTABLISHED, BUT ONCE AGAIN, THE PRESCRIBED  
21 CLOSURE PLANS ARE IN FULL SWING WITHOUT FINAL CONCLUSIONS OF  
22 COST OR BENEFITS PRESENTED ON THE PILOT FOR THIS BOARD IS, THE  
23 UNION IS, OR THE PUBLIC'S CONSIDERATION. WITH RESPECT TO THE  
24 REDUCTION OF 100 BEDS AT L.A.C./U.S.C., IT'S OBVIOUS THAT  
25 ELIMINATING 100 BEDS WILL IMPACT THE ENTIRE TRAUMA SYSTEM THAT



**The Meeting Transcript of  
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1 THE ELECTORATE VOTED TO SAVE WHEN THEY PASSED MEASURE B LAST  
2 NOVEMBER. THE COMBINED IMPACTS OF THE BED DECREASE AND THE  
3 HIGH DESERT AND RANCHO CLOSURE WILL SEVERELY CONGEST THE  
4 HOSPITAL AND MAKE DELAYS TO TIMELY CARE SIGNIFICANTLY WORSE.  
5 WE BELIEVE THAT IF ADOPTED AS PROPOSED, THE COUNTY IS D.H.S.  
6 BUDGET WILL NOT ONLY REDUCE ACCESS TO CARE AND HARM PATIENTS,  
7 BUT ALSO ACTUALLY INCREASE THE LONGER-TERM BURDEN THAT THESE  
8 PATIENTS WILL EVENTUALLY PRESENT TO THE HEALTHCARE DELIVERY  
9 SYSTEM. THIS HELPS EXPLAIN OUR STRONG POSITION OF OPPOSITION  
10 TO THESE BUDGET PROPOSALS AND OUR STRONG COMMITMENT TO ACCESS  
11 MORE RESOURCES TO MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS AND ELIMINATE ANY  
12 OPPORTUNITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SHORTSIGHTED BUDGET  
13 POLICY IN THIS REGARD. IN REVIEWING THE D.H.S. BUDGET, WE URGE  
14 THE BOARD FIRST TO KEEP IN MIND THAT WHERE THERE ARE  
15 EXCESSIVE, UNCOMPENSATED BURDENS, THERE SHOULD BE ADEQUATE AND  
16 APPROPRIATE FINANCING POOLS TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO DELIVER  
17 NEEDED CARE. WE NEED TO WORK TOWARD THIS GOALS. PROVIDERS  
18 WITHIN THE COUNTY, WHETHER THEY ARE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC SECTOR  
19 PROFESSIONALS, SHOULD BE TAPPED TO WORK MORE CLOSELY AND  
20 COOPERATIVELY TO DISTRIBUTE MORE EQUITABLY BOTH THE BURDENS OF  
21 UNCOMPENSATED CARE AND THE BENEFITS OF COMPENSATED CARE.  
22 ANOTHER REAL CONCERN OF OURS IS THAT THERE BE ADEQUATE  
23 STAFFING TO ENSURE ADEQUATE CARE FOR BEDS THAT ARE FILLED WITH  
24 ALL TOO FREQUENTLY UNDERSERVED PATIENTS. WE WOULD STRONGLY  
25 SUPPORT APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR THESE COSTS. IT



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1 IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE LOOK TOWARD THE COUNTY'S RECOMMENDATIONS  
2 AROUND GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR POSITIVE MEDICAL OUTCOMES  
3 AND REDUCING MEDICAL ERRORS. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT SUCH  
4 INITIATIVES. HOWEVER, INVESTMENTS IN USER FRIENDLY LOW  
5 MAINTENANCE TECHNOLOGY IS LARGELY MISSING FROM THIS PROPOSED  
6 BUDGET. TO THE EXTENT THAT WE BELIEVE THAT THESE INVESTMENTS  
7 NEED TO BE INCLUDED, TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH INVESTMENTS TO  
8 ESTABLISH TECHNOLOGICAL ASSETS IN PRIVATE SETTINGS WOULD  
9 OCCUR, IT WOULD SEEM REASONABLE TO SUGGEST THAT THEY HELP  
10 OFFSET SOME OF THE COSTS. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A RANGE OF  
11 REVENUE MAXIMIZATION INITIATIVES THAT CAN EITHER BE BUILT FROM  
12 CURRENT MODELS OR ACCESSED MORE EFFECTIVELY, THAT CAN PROVIDE  
13 THE VITALLY-NEEDED ADDITIONAL FINANCING THAT WE NEED. IN  
14 CLOSING, SUPERVISORS, WE CALL FOR RESTORATION OF CUTS PROPOSED  
15 IN SCENARIO THREE THAT WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED BY JULY 2003  
16 BECAUSE OF LEGAL ISSUES, CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, PLANNING  
17 ISSUES, OR FINAL BOARD OF SUPERVISOR APPROVAL. THIS INCLUDES  
18 THE CLOSURE OF RANCHO, THE ELIMINATION OF BEDS AT HIGH DESERT  
19 -- I MEAN THE CLOSURE AT HIGH DESERT, ELIMINATION OF BEDS AT  
20 L.A.C./U.S.C., STAFFING REDUCTIONS AT COM CENTERS AND THE  
21 TRANSFER OF C.H.P. TO L.A. CARE. OF COURSE YOU'RE WONDERING  
22 HOW WILL THIS BE FINANCED, WHERE ARE THE SOURCES OF REVENUE TO  
23 MAKE THESE RESTORATIONS AT THIS TIME. FIRST OF ALL, WE WOULD  
24 LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT WE EXAMINE ALL FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN SET  
25 ASIDE FOR BUDGETARY UNCERTAINTIES OR PROVISIONAL USE AND THEY



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1 BE APPROPRIATED FOR THIS END. WE ALSO RECOMMEND 100%  
2 REIMBURSEMENT TO D.H.S. FOR LIQUIDATED ASSETS RATHER THAN HAVE  
3 THEM GO EXCLUSIVELY TO THE COUNTY GENERAL FUND. WE ALSO  
4 SUGGEST THAT WE DIRECT 50% OF PROCEEDS FROM EXISTING  
5 DEVELOPMENT AT RANCHO'S SOUTH CAMPUS TO D.H.S. THIS BENEFIT  
6 SHOULD NOT ACCRUE EXCLUSIVELY TO COUNTY GENERAL FUND OR OTHER  
7 COUNTY DEPARTMENTS. AND HOW WELL GOALS TO ACHIEVE INVESTMENT  
8 IN TECHNOLOGY BE ACHIEVED. WE THINK THAT D.H.S. SHOULD KEEP A  
9 PERCENTAGE OF SAVINGS THAT ARE CALLED FOR IN ITS BUDGET AND  
10 USE THEM -- REDIRECT THEM FOR INVESTMENT AND TO STRENGTHEN  
11 THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT IF THIS BOARD  
12 DECREASES THE THRESHOLD FOR THE NUMBER OF HOURS WORKED BY  
13 I.H.S.S. WORKERS, WE CAN BRING MORE COUNTY UNINSURED INTO  
14 COVERAGE AND CARE WITHIN OUR SYSTEM. WE ALSO CALL FOR THE  
15 COUNTY TO FREEZE COLAS FOR CORPORATE SUPPLIERS OF MATERIALS  
16 AND GOODS WITHIN D.H.S. IT WOULD BE FAIRLY SIMPLE TO IDENTIFY  
17 A REDUCTION BASELINE AND RENEGOTIATE CONTRACTS FOR REDUCED  
18 RATES FOR SUPPLIERS OF MATERIALS AND GOODS WITH D.H.S. --  
19 WITHIN D.H.S. FOR A STATED PERIOD OF TIME. WE ALSO URGE THIS  
20 BOARD TO COMPLY WITH CIVIL SERVICE AND BOARD OF SUPERVISOR  
21 POLICY AND CORRECT -- AND URGE THE DEPARTMENT TO CORRECT  
22 ONGOING ABUSES OF TEMPORARY PERSONNEL AGREEMENTS BY CONVERTING  
23 SERVICES AND SUPPLIES, REVENUE BACK TO SERVICE, I MEAN  
24 ALLOCATIONS, BACK TO SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FOR  
25 POSITIONS FOR WHICH THERE IS AN ONGOING NEED. WE ALSO CALL



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1 UPON THE COUNTY TO IMMEDIATELY CONVERT LONG-TERM TEMPS TO  
2 PERMANENT POSITIONS, AS CALLED FOR BY CIVIL SERVICE. WE REJECT  
3 BUDGET CHANGES THAT ARE ROOTED IN NEW CONTRACTING OUT  
4 PROPOSALS. THAT IS FOR PROPOSALS FOR WHICH THERE IS NO CURRENT  
5 BOARD OF SUPERVISOR APPROVED CONTRACT. WITHIN THE BUDGET ARE  
6 CHANGES THAT CALL FOR REDUCTIONS IN STAFFING FOR COMMUNITY  
7 HEALTH PLAN AND FOR CHANGES IN REVENUE MANAGEMENT, BUT THERE'S  
8 NO CONTRACT IN PLACE THAT WOULD DEMAND THAT AT THIS TIME. WE  
9 ALSO WOULD LIKE THIS BOARD TO EXAMINE OPPORTUNITIES TO  
10 ESTABLISH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS THAT USED IN  
11 DENVER IN WHICH THE COUNTY MAINTAINS AND HAS REOPENED  
12 EMERGENCY SERVICES IN PRIVATE HOSPITALS. SUCH APPROACHES HAVE  
13 BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN SUPPLEMENTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE  
14 REIMBURSEMENT STREAMS THAT SUPPORT THE COST OF THESE SERVICES  
15 AND YIELD ENHANCED REVENUE FOR OTHER SERVICES. FINALLY, WE  
16 WOULD LIKE FULL DISCLOSURE OF ALL AVAILABLE SERVICES WITHIN  
17 THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE ONGOING FUNDING FOR D.H.S. THANK YOU.

18

19 **SHIRLEY CARTER:** GOOD AFTERNOON. MY NAME IS SHIRLEY CARTER. I'M  
20 A STEWARD AT LOCAL 660 AND I'M ALSO AN ELIGIBILITY WORKER IN  
21 THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AND HAVE BEEN FOR  
22 OVER 15 YEARS. YOU CAN BET THAT WE AT 660 ARE DOING OUR JOB TO  
23 EDUCATE SACRAMENTO ABOUT THE WORK WE DO AND THE CRUCIAL  
24 SERVICES WE PROVIDE. WE KNOW THE COUNTY IS UNDER-FUNDED AND WE  
25 WANT TO WORK TOGETHER TO SECURE ADEQUATE STATE FUNDING AND





**The Meeting Transcript of  
The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors**

1 INCREASED STATE REVENUE FOR THE QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES. AT  
2 THE SAME TIME, WE WHO WORK IN THE FRONT LINES PROVIDING PUBLIC  
3 SERVICES NEED YOUR SUPPORT. WE NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE  
4 CRUCIAL PROBLEMS OF UNDERSTAFFING IN THE DISTRICTS THAT ARE  
5 GOING ON NOW. THE LEVEL OF STRESS AND THE DIFFICULTY OF  
6 MAINTAINING AN EVER-GROWING NUMBER OF HUNDRED OF CASES IS  
7 REACHING UNBEARABLE LEVELS. THE PROPOSAL TO CUT CALWORKS BY  
8 751 CASE CARRYING ELIGIBILITY WORKERS BY 45% JUST WON'T WORK.  
9 THAT MEANS THAT THE PROBLEMS WILL BE -- THIS MEANS THE PROGRAM  
10 WILL BE STAFFED AT 54% OF NEED. I AM GOING TO GOING TO STATE  
11 THE OBVIOUS BECAUSE SOMEONE NEEDS TO KNOW -- NEEDS TO KNOW --  
12 THE ERROR RATE FOR CALWORKS FOOD STAMPS AND MEDI-CAL WILL  
13 SKYROCKET. APPLICATIONS FOR DETERMINATIONS WILL NOT BE  
14 PROCESSED TIMELY. THE MORALE, THE STRESS LEVELS OF WORKERS  
15 WILL WORSEN. MORE FAMILIES WILL HAVE PROBLEMS ACCESSING THEIR  
16 WORKERS FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE. E.W. IS MAKE SURE  
17 CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES RECEIVE CORE SERVICES THEY RELY ON  
18 FOR SURVIVAL. ASK A MOTHER ON WELFARE TO TELL YOU WHAT SHE  
19 CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT AND I WILL BET SHE WILL TELL YOU CASH AND  
20 MEDI-CAL FIRST. SO WHY DID WE COME LAST IN THE PROPOSED  
21 BUDGET? WHY DID THE BOARD CHOOSE TO FUND NEW PROJECTS WHEN  
22 IT'S IN THE BUDGET MONEY OVERSTAFFING FOR CORE ELIGIBILITY  
23 SERVICES. WHAT IS EVERYONE THINKING? HOW IS A PROGRAM GOING TO  
24 RUN WITH HALF THE STAFF? IT MAY BECOME A FACT THAT THE COUNTY  
25 WILL HAVE LESS MONEY TO RUN CALWORKS, BUT THE COUNTY CAN



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1 CHOOSE WHERE TO CUT AND WE HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS. FIRST, WE  
2 ASK THAT YOU CANCEL THE GANG CASE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT FOR  
3 A.C.S. AND MAXIMUS AND ALLOW CURRENT WORKERS TO HANDLE THE  
4 CASES ONCE AGAIN. THIS WILL SAVE APPROXIMATELY \$12 MILLION A  
5 YEAR GENERATED BY PROVIDING THE SERVICES IN-HOUSE. BRINGING  
6 STAGE ONE CHILD CARE CONTRACTS BACK IN-HOUSE WOULD SAVE AN  
7 ADDITIONAL \$10 MILLION. D.P.S.S. WILL BE COMING BEFORE THE  
8 BOARD SOON TO EXTEND THESE CONTRACTS FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS,  
9 WASTING \$5 MILLION THAT COULD BE USED. WE ASK THE DEPARTMENT  
10 TO LOOK AT ALL CONTRACTS FOR POTENTIAL COST SAVINGS. D.P.S.  
11 ALSO PROPOSES CUTTING 114 LIVE STAFF AND GENERAL LEAVE TO COME  
12 UP WITH THE COUNTY MATCH FUNDS TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL STATE  
13 FUNDING FOR LEADER. LEADER HAS MADE OUR WORK MORE DIFFICULT  
14 AND HAS INCREASED THE TIME IT TAKES TO PROCESS A CASE. ON TOP  
15 OF THAT, THE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO STAFF G.R. A 64% NEED TO FUND  
16 LEADER. THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE. LEADER HAS SUCKED UP ENOUGH  
17 RESOURCES AS IT IS WITHOUT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF -- THE  
18 QUALITY OF THE SERVICES WE PROVIDE. AND I.H.S.S., OUR CLERICAL  
19 STAFF IS DYING. WHILE D.P.S.S. IS PROPOSING TO HIRE 55% NEW  
20 SOCIAL WORKERS AND I.H.S. TO FUND A GROWING NEED, THEY HAVE  
21 NOT INCREASED THE NUMBER OF CLERICAL STAFF. SENIOR CLERKS  
22 SOLVE PAYMENT PROBLEMS, DO THE PAPERWORK AND TIME SHEET FOR  
23 PROVIDERS, AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR 12 TO 1,800 CASES. THE  
24 CASELOAD FOR CLERICAL AND I.H.S.S. IS DOUBLE WHAT IT SHOULD  
25 BE. HOW CAN YOU HAVE MORE SOCIAL WORKERS AND NOT ADD ONE



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1 ADDITIONAL CLERK? THIS DOES NOT MAKE SENSE. I THANK YOU FOR  
2 LISTENING.

3

4 **LAWRENCE HILL:** GOOD MORNING, MY NAME IS LAWRENCE HILL AND I AM  
5 AN S.E.I.U. 660 STEWARD. I HAVE BEEN A FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER  
6 IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES FOR OVER 25 YEARS.  
7 RECENTLY LOS ANGELES COUNTY RECEIVED ITS STATE FISCAL YEAR  
8 2003/2004 PROPOSED INITIAL BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE CHILD  
9 SUPPORT PROGRAM. IT WAS VERY FRIGHTENING TO LEARN THAT THE  
10 PROPOSED FUNDING IS \$10.6 MILLION LESS THAN OUR CURRENT YEAR'S  
11 BUDGET. THIS REPRESENTS A 7% CUT TO OUR ADMINISTRATION BUDGET.  
12 STILL MORE PROPOSALS MAY BRING FURTHER REDUCTIONS. WHILE WE  
13 UNDERSTAND THE STATE IS EXPERIENCING A SEVERE BUDGET CRISIS,  
14 WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUCH SEVERE CUTS TO THE CHILD SUPPORT  
15 PROGRAM MAKES PHYSICAL SENSE. THE WORK WE DO GENERATES  
16 MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR THE STATE AND COUNTY. CHILD SUPPORT  
17 SERVICES HELPS PULL CHILDREN OUT OF POVERTY, CREATES FINANCIAL  
18 AND FAMILY STABILITY, KEEPS CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES OFF OF  
19 WELFARE, INCREASED THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITH PRIVATE HEALTH  
20 INSURANCE AND LOWERS PROTECTIVE SERVICE CASES. I, ALONG WITH  
21 OTHER S.E.I.E. -- S.E.I.U. BROTHERS AND SISTERS ARE EDUCATING  
22 STATE LEGISLATORS ABOUT THE VALUED SERVICES WE PROVIDE AND THE  
23 NEED TO PRESERVE THEM. WE ARE DEMANDING THAT THE STATE  
24 GENERATE NEW REVENUES THROUGH CERTAIN TAXES AND THEN TO  
25 CORPORATE LOOPHOLES AND INCREASE THE TAX -- THE TOP TAX



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1 BRACKETS ON THE HIGHEST INCOME TAXPAYERS. WE ARE MAINTAINING A  
2 STRONG PRESENCE IN SACRAMENTO AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT LOS  
3 ANGELES COUNTY MAY FACE SIGNIFICANT CUTS IN FUNDING. AT THE  
4 SAME TIME BUT WE KNOW THAT THE BOARD AND THE CHILD SUPPORT  
5 PROGRAM DIRECTOR, MR. BROWNING, HAVE SOME DISCRETION IN HOW  
6 CUTS ARE MADE. WE WANT TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO THOSE DECISIONS.  
7 FOR EXAMPLE, WE BELIEVE THAT IF LOS ANGELES HAS TO DO MORE  
8 WITH LESS, SO SHOULD FOR-PROFIT COMPANIES WHO HOLD A CONTRACT  
9 WITH THE DEPARTMENT. SPECIFICALLY, H.C.S., WHICH BOUGHT OUT  
10 LOCKHEED I.M.S., HOLDS AN 8.6 MILLION PHYSICAL AGENT CONTRACT.  
11 IT DOES NOT MAKE SENSE FOR THE CONTRACTOR TO REAP HUGE PROFITS  
12 WHEN OUR FUNDING IS SO PRECARIOUS. SECOND, AS A FAMILY SUPPORT  
13 OFFICER, I DIRECTLY IMPACT THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN'S LIVES FOR  
14 THE BETTER. LESS FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICERS, MEANS FEWER FAMILIES  
15 BEING SERVED IN A TIMELY MANNER. AS A FAMILY SUPPORT OFFICER,  
16 I HAVE FOUR LEVELS OF MANAGEMENT OVER ME, AND THAT IS NOT  
17 COUNTING THE DIRECTOR AND HIS DEPUTIES. THE DEPARTMENT  
18 CONTINUES TO HAVE TOO MANY LAYERS OF MANAGEMENT SINCE THE  
19 STATE'S REORGANIZATION. IF STAFF IS TO BE CUT, IT SHOULD BE  
20 THOSE WHO HAVE THE LEAST IMPACT ON CHILDREN BEING SERVED.  
21 THANK YOU.

22

23 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YOU'VE SO FAR GONE 20 MINUTES.

24

25 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** SUPERVISOR, WE HAVE ONE ENDING STATEMENT.



**The Meeting Transcript of  
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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU.

3

4 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** GOOD AFTERNOON.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** CAN YOU DO IT IN FIVE MINUTES?

7

8 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** IT'LL BE FIVE MINUTES, SUPERVISOR.

9

10 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OR LESS.

11

12 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** MAYBE LESS.

13

14 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT.

15

16 **RAMON RUBALCAVA:** SUPERVISOR, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, IT WAS THE

17 LAST TIME THAT YOU HAD NO TIME -- HERE WE GO. GOOD AFTERNOON.

18 MY NAME IS RAMON RUBALCAVA, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF S.E.I.U.

19 LOCAL 660. THE 45,000 COUNTY WORKERS REPRESENTED BY LOCAL 660

20 ARE GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SERVICE REDUCTIONS AND THE

21 POLICIES REFLECTED IN THE PROPOSED COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE

22 FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1. OUR MEMBERS ARE KEENLY AWARE OF

23 THE COUNTY'S DIMINISHED FISCAL SITUATION BECAUSE OF THE SLUMP

24 IN THE ECONOMY AND THE STILL-EVOLVING STATE BUDGET CRISIS. FOR

25 THEY ARE THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES THAT STAFF AND OPERATE THE



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1 COUNTY'S PUBLIC LIBRARIES, THE ANIMAL SHELTERS, PROBATION  
2 CAMPS, MAINTAIN THE PARKS AND RUN ITS RECREATIONAL SERVICES  
3 PROGRAMS, PROVIDE THE CRITICAL PUBLIC SERVICES AND SUSTAIN THE  
4 VULNERABLE SAFETY NET OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HEALTH SERVICES  
5 SO PRECIOUS TO THE COUNTY'S RESIDENTS IN THESE DIRE TIMES.  
6 YES, OUR MEMBERS UNDERSTAND THE COUNTY FISCAL SITUATION, BUT  
7 THEY ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT THE COUNTY'S HIGHEST PRIORITY SHOULD  
8 BE TO PRESERVE THOSE CRITICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC SERVICES, THAT  
9 THEY VIEW AS THE COUNTY'S CORE MISSION TO ITS RESIDENTS,  
10 PARTICULARLY THE MOST VULNERABLE. LOCAL 660 MEMBERS ALSO  
11 UNDERSTAND THE COUNTY IS NEED FOR ADEQUATE REVENUES AND THEY  
12 ACT ON THAT KNOWLEDGE. LATE LAST NIGHT, 50 BUS WEARIED COUNTY  
13 WORKERS ARRIVED BACK IN LOS ANGELES AFTER A FULL DAY OF  
14 LOBBYING IN SACRAMENTO. COUNTY WORKERS REPRESENTED BY LOCAL  
15 660 ARE PREPARED TO DO MORE, BUT THEY ALSO WANT TO ENSURE THAT  
16 THEIR EFFORTS ARE NOT SPURNED BY COUNTY POLICIES THAT PROMOTE  
17 PRIVATIZATION AND BELITTLE THEIR COUNTY -- THEIR CAREER-LONG  
18 DEDICATION TO PUBLIC SERVICE, INSTEAD OF THE COUNTY INVESTING  
19 IN A MORE ACCOUNTABLE AND EFFICIENT COUNTY WORK FORCE. BUDGET  
20 SHORTFALLS IN MENTAL HEALTH AND D.P.S.S. AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS  
21 MUST NOT BE BRIDGED BY REDUCING OR ELIMINATING COUNTY CORE  
22 MISSION PROGRAMS WHILE SPARING SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH  
23 VENDOR AGREEMENTS. EXISTING SERVICE CONTRACTS SHOULD BE  
24 RENEGOTIATED OR CANCELED. LOCAL 660 WILL WORK TO PROTECT  
25 SERVICES. COUNTY WORKERS ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING TO OBTAINING





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1 DEDICATED REVENUE STREAMS AND TO HELP RECTIFY THE COUNTY IS  
2 STRUCTURAL PROBLEM. WITH THE SAME ENERGY AND RESOURCEFULNESS  
3 THAT MADE POSSIBLE THE PASSAGE OF MEASURE B, COUNTY WORKERS  
4 HAVE UNITED WITH OTHER S.E.I.U. LOCALS, OTHER UNIONS,  
5 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS TO FIGHT FOR A FAIR  
6 STATE BUDGET. THESE COUNTY WORKERS, THESE 17,000 CLERICAL  
7 WORKERS, THESE 5,000 ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL WORKERS,  
8 THESE 400 LIBRARIANS, THESE 3,000 BLUE-COLLAR CUSTODIAN  
9 WORKERS, THESE 6,000 REGISTERED NURSES AND 3,000 MORE IN OTHER  
10 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS, MORE 7,000 ELIGIBILITY WORKERS AND THE  
11 REMAINING 4,000 WORKERS IN OTHER COUNTIES SPECIALIZED  
12 CLASSIFICATIONS CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE DAILY TO DELIVER QUALITY  
13 SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS WHILE FACING INADEQUATE STAFFING  
14 LEVELS AND AN EVER-INCREASING WORKLOAD. THESE COUNTY WORKERS  
15 CALL ON YOUR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO PROPERLY FUND PUBLIC  
16 LIBRARIES, CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES, AND OTHER VITAL PUBLIC  
17 MISSION PROGRAMS. SUPERVISORS, I THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND I  
18 WANT TO GIVE TO YOU OUR BROCHURE THAT IS BEING DISTRIBUTED  
19 THIS WEEK TO OUR MEMBERS. AS IT KICKS OFF OUR CAMPAIGN AROUND  
20 THE BUDGET CRISIS AND WE'RE DOING OUR PART TO BRING SERVICES  
21 TO THIS COUNTY. WE ASK THE BOARD TO JOIN WITH US IN THAT  
22 PARTNERSHIP. THANK YOU.

23

24 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I GATHER THE --  
25 THEY'RE GOING TO ANNOUNCE IT'S A \$38 INSTEAD OF A \$35 BILLION



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1 DEFICIT. [Reference is to announcement of projected State  
2 Budget deficit.] SO WARREN WILLIAMS, RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY  
3 AND DOUGLAS BARNETT. JUST LET ME GET THESE. ALL RIGHT. ALL  
4 RIGHT. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME.

5

6 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** MY NAME IS RAHIMAJ --

7

8 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, HAVE A SEAT, PLEASE. WARREN  
9 WILLIAMS WOULD COME FIRST.

10

11 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** WARREN ASKED ME TO GO FIRST.

12

13 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, FINE, OKAY.

14

15 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** DOUG BARNETT, I'M A RESIDENT OF ACTON,  
16 CALIFORNIA. MIKE, YOU MAY KNOW ME FROM TWO TERMS ON THE ACTON  
17 TOWN COUNCIL. I'VE SPENT OVER 15 YEARS IN A QUAKE REMAINING  
18 HOUSE DOWN IN SOUTH CENTRAL IN THE SECOND DISTRICT. I'VE LOST  
19 PROBABLY 20% OF MY NEIGHBORS IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS AS THEIR  
20 PAID-FOR-HOUSING HAS ROLLED OVER INTO NEW -- A NEW TAX BASE  
21 FOR THE ASSESSOR. THE SECOND DISTRICT, FROM MY VIEW, IS  
22 PROBABLY INCREASING REVENUES THROUGH TAXES REMARKABLY. WITH A  
23 -- THAT'S 158 SQUARE MILES FOR THAT 2 MILLION PEOPLE. IF YOU  
24 ELIMINATE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY, WE HAVE A DENSITY OF PROBABLY  
25 25 TO 50 PEOPLE PER ACRE. THERE'S A SINGLE BUILDING IN THE



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1 SECOND DISTRICT THAT PUTS A QUARTER OF A MILLION PEOPLE  
2 THROUGH IT AT VIRTUALLY NO COST TO THE COUNTY, THEY TRY TO  
3 CALL. MY POINT IS THE DYNAMICS OF WHO LIVES IN THE SECOND  
4 DISTRICT IS SO DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHER FOUR DISTRICTS, AND  
5 I'VE SPENT SO MUCH TIME DOWN THERE, I CAN'T SPEAK FOR THOSE  
6 PEOPLE, BUT I WILL SEE THAT WARREN HAS A PLAN HERE, A SMALL,  
7 TINY PLAN THAT THE PEOPLE OF THAT DISTRICT LEARN HOW TO SPEAK  
8 FOR THEMSELVES BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. I'VE WATCHED  
9 THESE PEOPLE FROM MY COMMUNITY IN ACTON AND THE TRAIL  
10 DISTRICTS AND ALL THAT, THERE'S A MANNER, A WAY OF APPROACHING  
11 THE BOARD HERE THAT I'VE WATCHED FOR YEARS, I'VE SEEN 4 OR 500  
12 PEOPLE COME DOWN HERE FOR THE ISSUES OF THE NORTH COUNTY, AND  
13 BE ABLE TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU. I'VE NOT SEEN THAT IN THE SECOND  
14 DISTRICT.

15

16 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WELL YOU JUST HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE RIGHT  
17 HEARINGS. I THINK THAT YOU MUST BE HERE PUBLIC COMMENT, BUT  
18 WHEN THERE IS AN ISSUE OF SUBSTANCE AS IT RELATES TO THE  
19 SECOND DISTRICT, YOU HAVE PRESENTATION BY HOMEOWNERS AND  
20 PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE OF SUBSTANCE, BUT -- AND SO I HOPE THAT  
21 YOU WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO OBSERVE THAT AT SOME TIME IN THE  
22 FUTURE.

23

24 **DOUGLAS BARNETT:** OKAY. I DIDN'T -- THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO  
25 DEFEND YOURSELF.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** YES. GO AHEAD. WARREN WILLIAMS. OKAY, MS.  
3 BRINKLEY.

4

5 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** MY NAME IS RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY,  
6 I'M THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CULTURAL REFLECTION PRODUCTION  
7 COMPANY LTD. I'M ALSO IN ASSOCIATION WITH WARREN WILLIAMS'  
8 ORGANIZATION COALITION FOR BLACKS BEST INTEREST. I'D LIKE  
9 HOPEFULLY THE PROGRAM WILL BE FUNDED, IF NOT ALSO I'D LIKE TO  
10 SHARE SOME OF OUR INFORMATION. THIS PARTICULAR INFORMATION WAS  
11 SUBMITTED IN 1979. I'D LIKE TO REISSUE IT AND ADD JUST A FEW  
12 MORE WITH IT. I'LL JUST TOUCH ON THREE OF THE FOUR OF THE  
13 AREAS WE'RE REQUESTING. AN EDUCATIONAL ARTS TELECOMMUNICATION  
14 FACILITY, A HOSPITAL WITH THE TRAINING UNIT OF DOCTORS AND  
15 NURSES AND AN ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE DOCTORS, AN  
16 AMBULANCE TRAINING AND FUNCTIONAL SERVICE. ALSO -- OH, THE  
17 FIRST WAS A TELEVISION, LIKE A STATION AND A SCHOOL FOR THE  
18 ARTS AND FOR EDUCATIONAL ENHANCEMENT. THERE'S OTHERS THAT I'D  
19 LIKE TO ADD. NOW, THE LAST PORTION WOULD BE JUSTICE, EDUCATION  
20 -- EDUCATION, LEGAL DEFENSE FOR A CIVILIZED SOCIETY. I --  
21 YESTERDAY, THEY BROUGHT MY GRANDSON -- I'LL MAKE THIS BRIEF,  
22 THEY BROUGHT MY GRANDSON HOME, HE WAS WALKING, THE POLICE SAID  
23 HE HAD A LARGE JACKET ON. I SAID, "IT'S COLD." THEY BROUGHT  
24 HIM HOME. ON ONE HAND, I'M DELIGHTED THAT THEY WERE, YOU KNOW,  
25 LOOKING AFTER THIS 16-YEAR-OLD. ON THE OTHER, I'M SAYING,



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1 "WAIT A MINUTE, THIS IS PROFILING." THEY DID NOT PICK UP THE  
2 OTHER YOUNG GENTLEMAN THAT HAPPENED TO BE OF A DIFFERENT RACE,  
3 AND WE INCLUDE ALL PEOPLE IN OUR RACE, BUT HE DID NOT PICK HIM  
4 UP, BROUGHT MY GRANDSON HOME. I HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY  
5 ASSAULTED, VERBALLY ASSAULTED BY POLICE IN YOUR -- EXCUSE ME,  
6 I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS, 70, THE YEAR AGO IT WAS AT LEAST 7 YEARS  
7 AGO, '77, '78. MY SON, AT THIS PARTICULAR TIME, HE'S FIGHTING  
8 HIS CASE. HE'S INCARCERATED IN THE TWIN TOWER LOS ANGELES  
9 MEN'S CENTER. HE WAS PLACED IN THERE AND HE WAS FIGHTING HIS  
10 CASE PRO PER. HISSELF, AND SOME OTHER GENTLEMEN, THEY'RE NOT -  
11 - THEY WERE FIGHTING BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT GETTING THEIR FAIR  
12 SHARE AS FAR AS THEY'RE CONCERNED. FOR EXAMPLE, ONE -- FIVE  
13 BEDS FOR ONE PERSON. THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO GO TO THE LIBRARY.  
14 THEY LET THEM OUT "X" AMOUNT OF TIMES TWO HOURS TO GO TO THE  
15 LIBRARY, AND A LONG STORY SHORT, THEY FINALLY PUT HIM INTO A  
16 MONTH OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT. HE SPOKE OUT TO THIS LADY  
17 OFFICER, I GUESS, STATING HER HAIR WAS VERY PRETTY. THEY PUT  
18 HIM IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT, I GUESS BASICALLY BECAUSE OF  
19 WHATEVER. AT ANY RATE, MY SON WAS PHYSICALLY ASSAULTED BY  
20 INDIVIDUALS AND YOUNG GANG BANGERS. HE MENTIONED THEY ARE  
21 BEING USED, THEY'RE YOUNG, THEY DON'T REALLY KNOW. THEN THEY  
22 SAID -- THIS WAS THE DORMITORY THAT ATTACKED HIM. THEN THEY  
23 SENT ANOTHER GENTLEMAN AND/OR TWO, HE ATTACKED HIM. AFTER MY  
24 SON VERBALLY EXPLAINED TO HIM HE'S BEING USED AND DA DA DA,  
25 THE GENTLEMAN SAID, "I WILL NOT ATTACK YOU, I WILL HELP YOU



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1 OUT OF THIS SITUATION." GO GET YOUR THINGS. MY SON SAID, "NO,  
2 YOU GO GET THEM." AT ANY RATE, HE REQUESTED THE DEPUTIES TO  
3 LET HIM OUT. THEY LET HIM OUT. MY SON CRAWLED OUT. HE DIDN'T  
4 WALK. THE OTHER YOUNG MAN CARRIED HIS BELONGINGS, THE OFFICERS  
5 STARTED KICKING HIS BELONGINGS ALL OVER THE PLACE. THEN THEY  
6 TOLD HIM TO LIE DOWN ON THE FLOOR, HANDCUFFED, AND GET UP. AT  
7 ANY RATE, THEY END UP KNEES IN MY SON, GRABBING HIM BY HIS  
8 HAIR, CARRYING HIM OUT, THE OTHER GENTLEMAN -- GENTLEMAN --  
9 THE OTHER PERSON CARRYING HIS FEET, MY SON SCREAMING, NINE,  
10 FIVE, X AMOUNT OF OTHER OFFICERS CAME, 'WHERE DO YOU HURT?' 'I  
11 HURT HERE,' HE WAS HANDCUFFED I BELIEVE, I'M NOT POSITIVE, PUT  
12 THEIR KNEE IN MY SON. THE NURSE CAME, AND THAT'S WHEN HE SAID,  
13 "I NEED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE." HE WAS SAYING IT ALL THE TIME OR  
14 WHATEVER. THEY KICKED HIS PAPERS, FOUND OUT HE WAS PRO PER.  
15 SERGEANT DEPUTY LEFT. "I'M NOT IN THIS." YOU'RE ALREADY IN IT.  
16 YOU SAW THIS HAPPEN. YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING. THE NURSE -- LONG  
17 STORY SHORT, HE ENDED UP GOING TO MEDICAL, HAD AN OPERATION  
18 BECAUSE HE WAS LITERALLY FRACTURED IN THE SYNOVIAL --

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** DO YOU -- ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THE FACT  
21 THAT WE DO HAVE AN OFFICER, AN O.I.C. AS WELL AS AN OMBUDSMAN  
22 PROGRAM?

23

24 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** THEY CAME BUT THEY DIDN'T DO  
25 ANYTHING. HE WAS A LITTLE ANGRY BECAUSE HE HAD TALKED TO MY





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1 SON PREVIOUSLY, AND THEN WHEN I CALLED, HE CAME BACK, HE STILL  
2 DIDN'T DO ANYTHING, THEY'RE VERBALLY ASSAULTING HIM.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** LET ME JUST SAY THIS IS NOT A HEARING ON  
5 INDIVIDUAL ISSUES. IF YOU'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE FROM OUR  
6 OFFICE, WE CAN GET RANDY TAHARA WHO WILL TALK TO YOU ABOUT  
7 YOUR, YES.

8

9 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** RANDY TAHARA.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** RIGHT. IF YOU'LL JUST STEP OVER HERE,  
12 SHE'LL TALK TO YOU. I HAVE TO -- WE CAN'T ADDRESS INDIVIDUAL  
13 ISSUES. THIS IS A BUDGET HEARING.

14

15 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** CERTAINLY. I WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT  
16 FOR THE JUSTICE EDUCATIONAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND IN OUR PACKAGE  
17 AS WELL. PARDON ME FOR TAKING SO MUCH OF YOUR TIME, BUT THANK  
18 YOU VERY MUCH.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. WARREN WILLIAMS. ALL RIGHT,  
21 SOMEONE CAN GET THE INFORMATION, YOUR NAME AND THE BOOKING  
22 NUMBER OF YOUR SON AND WHERE HE IS, AND WE CAN CHECK ON IT.

23

24 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** CERTAINLY THANK YOU SUPERVISOR --  
25 SUPERINTENDENT.



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1

2 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IS GEORGE LACURE HERE?

3

4 **RAHIMAJ ASUBIAN-BRINKLEY:** YVONNE BURKE, THANK YOU MA'AM.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY, THANK YOU, IS GEORGE LACURE HERE?

7 OKAY RANDY TAHARA WILL BE HERE WILL BE HERE, WE COULD GET THE  
8 INFORMATION, YES?

9

10 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** IS IT POSSIBLE MS. YVONNE BURKE THAT THERE'S  
11 ANOTHER PARTY HERE QUEENIE, IF SHE COULD COME UP BEFORE ME.

12

13 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** NO YOU GO ON AND FINISH BECAUSE I HAVE  
14 OTHER PEOPLE WHO WERE SIGNED UP THAT I HAVE.

15

16 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** BEFORE HER, OKAY, THANK YOU.

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** IF SHE'S ONE OF THE PEOPLE WE WILL BE  
19 CALLING HER.

20

21 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** I'VE SUBMITTED A PROPOSAL THAT I'M HOPING  
22 THAT EVERY SUPERVISOR HAS BEFORE THEM, DOES EVERYONE HAVE A  
23 COPY OF THE PROPOSAL THAT'S BEEN SENT. OKAY, WE ARE REQUESTING  
24 THAT THAT PROPOSAL WILL BE SUPPORTED AND FUNDED. WE KNOW THIS  
25 IS A TIME THAT A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND



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1 INDIVIDUALS AND THE SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE ASKING FOR FUNDS AND  
2 ASKING THAT THEY DON'T LOSE ANY MONEY. HOWEVER, IMAGINE IF  
3 THERE IS A FIRE AND THERE IS A CELEBRITY AND A HOMELESS PERSON  
4 INSIDE THIS MINI MART THAT'S BURNING AND A FIREMAN GOES THERE  
5 AND HE RUSHES IN AND THE CELEBRITY, WHO IS IN GOOD CONDITION,  
6 ABLE TO WALK OUT, IS SAYING, "I'M A CELEBRITY, HELP ME OUT OF  
7 HERE," THE HOMELESS PERSON IS LYING THERE, INCAPABLE OF  
8 WALKING OUT THEMSELVES, WHO DOES THE FIREMAN HELP? THIS BUDGET  
9 PROCESS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON PRIORITIES. YES, THE TRAILS ARE  
10 IMPORTANT. HOWEVER, THE HOMELESS ARE IMPORTANT. WHEN PEOPLE  
11 COME IN PUBLIC COMMENT, THEY MAY NOT SPEAK IN THE SAME  
12 LANGUAGE THAT THIS BOARD IS FAMILIAR WITH. THEY MAY NOT BE  
13 ABLE TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PROGRAMS THAT THEY ARE REFERRING TO.  
14 THAT'S THE PURPOSE OF THIS PROPOSAL. WHAT WE HAVE -- WHAT WE  
15 REALIZE THAT WHEN PEOPLE ARE SURVIVING, THEN THEY HAVE A  
16 TENDENCY TO FOCUS MORE ON THEIR PERSONAL CONCERNS BECAUSE THEY  
17 NEED RELIEF FROM THAT FIRST, AND IT IS A VERY DIFFICULT TASK  
18 TO COLLECTIVELY BRING A LOT OF PEOPLE TOGETHER. HOWEVER, MANY  
19 PEOPLE ARE IN AGREEMENT FOR THE NEED OF HAVING A SERVICE  
20 CENTER IN LOS ANGELES. IT WILL COST WITHIN THE NEXT COUPLE OF  
21 YEARS FOR THE COMPLETE PROGRAM TO WORK PROPERLY, \$500 MILLION.  
22 \$500 MILLION. BUT WHAT IS THE RISK OF FUNDING SUCH A PROGRAM?  
23 THEY HAD THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER GO BACK, RECONSIDER  
24 THE WHOLE BUDGET, AND DECIDE ON HOW TO REDIRECT FUNDS TO FUND  
25 A \$500 MILLION PROGRAM, EXAMINING THOSE ASSEMBLY BILLS AND



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1 STATE BILLS AND FEDERAL SOURCES THAT CAN BE DIRECTED.  
2 UNDERSTAND THAT FUNDING DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN DOLLAR BILLS, BUT  
3 IT MEANS THE USE OF EXISTING STAFF, EXISTING FACILITIES,  
4 EXISTING RESOURCES, SUCH AS MACLAREN HALL. MACLAREN HALL THAT  
5 WAS SPOKEN ABOUT EARLIER, THEY HAD NO PLAN FOR IT, BUT WE HAVE  
6 A COMMUNITY THAT DOES NOT HAVE A DREAM CENTER, THAT'S IN  
7 DESPERATE NEED OF HAVING A SERVICE CENTER. HERE'S A PROPOSAL  
8 BEFORE YOU AND A CENTER THAT'S AVAILABLE THAT WILL ACCOMMODATE  
9 THIS COMPLETE PROGRAM. SO AGAIN, WE KNOW IT'S POSSIBLE FOR IT  
10 TO BE MANIFESTED. WHAT ARE WE LOOKING AT HERE? WE ARE  
11 EXAMINING THE ISSUE OF SECURITY THAT WAS ADDRESSED JUST BEFORE  
12 MAY, AND THAT IS, WHEN THE STATUS QUO CONTINUE TO BE FUNDED  
13 AND THERE'S PRIVATE INTEREST IN THAT, WHETHER IT'S MEDICAL  
14 SERVICES, SOCIAL SERVICE, OR WHATEVER, THEN PEOPLE ARE  
15 PROTECTING THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR PROFESSIONS. THEY WANT TO  
16 DRIVE THE BEST CARS AND LIVE IN THE BEST HOMES, BUT IT'S NOT  
17 IN MY BACKYARD. SO WHICH BACKYARD SUFFERS? IT'S THE FRONT  
18 YARDS OF MANY AFRICAN-AMERICANS AND HISPANICS THAT'S  
19 SUFFERING. IN HEALTHY CARE, THEY SPOKE ABOUT, IN THE HEALTHY  
20 FAMILIES PROGRAM, THEY GAVE STATISTICS THAT APPLY HERE. WHAT  
21 IS THE PRIORITY? AND THAT'S WHAT THE PROPOSED BUDGET IS ALL  
22 ABOUT, EXAMINING WHAT IS THE PRIORITY NEED? SO WE'RE ASKING  
23 THAT YOU WOULD USE DISCRETIONARY FUNDS, RESERVE FUNDS,  
24 WHATEVER IS AVAILABLE AS WELL AS RESOURCES TO HELP FUND THIS  
25 PROGRAM. NOW THIS FIRST YEAR, WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR \$500



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1 MILLION. WHAT WE'RE ASKING FOR ARE ENOUGH FUNDS TO GET THIS  
2 PROGRAM MOVING FORWARD, TO BEGIN TO PROVIDE DIRECT SERVICES,  
3 BECAUSE THIS WAS VITALLY NEEDED. THERE'S A LOT OF CHURCHES AND  
4 OTHER ORGANIZATIONS THAT'S WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS  
5 PROCESS. IT WOULD INCREASE EMPLOYMENT. SOMETIME -- OVER THE  
6 WEEKEND, I HEARD BILL GATES SPEAKING ON A BROADCAST AND HE WAS  
7 SPEAKING ABOUT HOW HE DISTRIBUTED MILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO  
8 DOCTORS AND HE SPOKE ON IF HE OFFERED THEM EVEN MORE MONEY,  
9 WHAT THE USE OF THAT MONEY WOULD DO.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. WILLIAMS, YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED, AND I  
12 THINK THAT YOU'VE GOTTEN OFF ISSUE IN TERMS OF A BUDGET OR A  
13 PARTICULAR DEPARTMENT THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT. SO I KNOW THAT  
14 YOU'LL BE HERE NEXT TUESDAY, AND YOU CAN CONTINUE WITH YOUR  
15 STATEMENT, BUT AT THIS POINT, YOUR TIME HAS EXPIRED.

16

17 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** MAY I MAKE A CLOSING STATEMENT, I APPRECIATE,  
18 IT'D BE VERY FAST.

19

20 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** A VERY FAST CLOSING STATEMENT YES.

21

22 **WARREN WILLIAMS:** THERE IS A RISK IN FUNDING THIS PROGRAM, AND  
23 THE RISK OF FUNDING THIS PROGRAM IS THAT IT WILL SOLVE THE  
24 PROBLEMS, IT WILL SAVE MONEY, BECAUSE THIS COUNTY WOULD CEASE  
25 TO CONTINUE TO FUND THE SYMPTOMS AND INSTEAD FUND PROGRAMS



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1 THAT WILL ADDRESS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS WITHIN THE AFRICAN-  
2 AMERICAN POPULATION. I WILL BE BACK ON NEXT TUESDAY, THEN, TO  
3 COMPLETE IT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

4

5 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. WE HAVE RUTH CHIQUITA  
6 SUMMERS, BURGESS PAYNE, ALL RIGHT. COME UP. MS. PAYNE. HOW  
7 ABOUT RUTH CHIQUITA SUMMERS. OH, I'M SORRY. HERSCHEL GRIMES,  
8 SHIRLEY MOORE, ALL PLEASE COME FORWARD. OKAY. RICHARD BYRD.  
9 ALL RIGHT, NOW, HAVE ANY OF THE PEOPLE WHOSE NAMES I CALLED,  
10 ARE THEY HERE? HERSCHEL GRIMES, ARE YOU HERE?

11

12 **SPEAKER:** THEY HAD A MEETING IN WASHINGTON.

13

14 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** OKAY YOU'RE ALSO REPRESENTING SHIRLEY  
15 MOORE?

16

17 **SPEAKER:** YES.

18

19 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. HOW ABOUT RICHARD BYRD?

20

21 **SPEAKER:** MR. BYRD, I'M NOT REPRESENTING, I KNOW WHO HE IS BUT  
22 I SAW HIM IN ANOTHER MEETING BUT NOT --

23

24 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT, OKAY RICHARD ROBINSON, COME  
25 FORWARD WITH HER, AND THAT CONCLUDES ALL THE SPEAKERS WE HAVE





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1 RECEIVED FROM. ALL RIGHT. SO IF YOU CAN START. GIVE US YOUR  
2 NAME, PLEASE.

3

4 **SPEAKER:** THANK YOU. HOW ARE YOU ALL? ALWAYS A PLEASURE TO BE  
5 IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ICON. MS. BURKE, I LOVE HER MUCH. AND  
6 MR. YAROSLAVSKY, I TOTALLY APPRECIATE WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH  
7 FIRST FIVE L.A. I'M GOING TO MAKE A VERY SHORT STATEMENT IN  
8 REFERENCE TO SOME INFORMATION THAT WE HAVE A MEETING WITH AS  
9 WE SPEAK ROD PAIGE AND PRESIDENT BUSH ARE MEETING IN REFERENCE  
10 TO SOME MONEY PROJECTS, AND WHAT HAPPENED WAS WE NOTICED WHEN  
11 YOU GUYS WENT FOR YOUR BEGGING TRIP LAST WEEK, YOU CAME BACK A  
12 LITTLE BIT DISAPPOINTED. HOWEVER, WE ARE GOING UP ON A TRIP,  
13 BECAUSE THEY REQUESTED US TO COME, AND SO THAT'S WHY SOME OF  
14 OUR PEOPLE ARE IN WASHINGTON AT PRESENT. NOW, THERE'S A  
15 GENTLEMAN THAT COMES ON THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE NAMED PAT SAJACK  
16 AND HE MADE A STATEMENT THAT HE ON THE ROSIE O'DONNELL SHOW  
17 ONE DAY WHEN SHE ASKED HIM ABOUT MONEY AND HOW HE FELT ABOUT  
18 GIVING AWAY ALL THAT MONEY. HE SAID, "FIRST OF ALL, IT'S NOT  
19 HIS MONEY." THEN THE OTHER THING HE SAID, AND I AM  
20 PARAPHRASING BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW THAT I AM SAYING EXACTLY  
21 WHAT HE SAYS, BUT HE SAYS "I AM NOT ONE OF THOSE PERSONS WHO  
22 BELIEVES THAT THERE IS SUCH A LIMITED SUPPLY OF FUNDS THAT IF  
23 SOMEBODY ELSE GETS SOMETHING, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET  
24 ANYTHING." AND I'M IN BIG TIME AGREEMENT WITH THAT. I HAVE  
25 GOTTEN OFF OF MALTHUS'S TRUCK, BECAUSE THOMAS MALTHUS WANTED



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1 US TO BELIEVE THAT BECAUSE THERE WAS POVERTY IN IRELAND AT ONE  
2 POINT, THAT EVERYBODY ELSE NEEDED TO SHUT DOWN HAVING THEIR  
3 BABIES BECAUSE OF A POPULATION CRISIS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, IF  
4 YOU GO DOWN TO THE FEDERAL RESERVE RIGHT NOW, OUR GOVERNMENT  
5 IS SOMEWHAT STILL RUNNING ON MALTHUS'S IDEAS BECAUSE THERE'S A  
6 PICTURE OF MALTHUS DOWN THERE RIGHT ALONG WITH BITTY MASON,  
7 WHOSE GROUND WE SIT ON. NOW, WHAT I AM GOING TO SAY TO YOU IS  
8 THAT I'M IN AGREEMENT WITH EVERYBODY. I CERTAINLY WANT THE  
9 COALITION FOR BLACKS' BEST INTEREST TO RECEIVE THE RESOURCES  
10 FOR HOUSING, FOR THE MEDIA CENTER, THINGS THAT ARE NAMED IN  
11 THERE AND FOR THE VANS AND SHUTTLE BUSES TO GO BACK AND FORTH  
12 TO TIE THE COMMUNITIES TOGETHER, AND I CERTAINLY WANT THEM TO  
13 HAVE SATELLITE CENTERS AND A LARGE CENTER AND I'M SURE THAT IT  
14 CAN COME OUT OF SOME OF THE AREAS WHERE YOU HAVE SOFT FUNDS.  
15 NOW, OUR MEMBERS OF THE LIFE GROUP, THERE ARE 182 BUSINESSES  
16 IN THE LIFE GROUP, AND WE WERE SHOCKED TO FIND THAT YOU GUYS  
17 WERE GOING TO SHOT OFF THESE HEARINGS AS OF -- INSTEAD OF  
18 HAVING 10 DAYS, BECAUSE WE WANTED TO PRESENT ABOUT 500  
19 PROPOSALS SO THAT YOU GUYS COULD UTILIZE SOME OF THAT MONEY  
20 THAT'S IN RESERVE AND SOME OF THE FUNDS THAT'S FOR TRAININGS  
21 AND THINGS LIKE THAT WHERE PEOPLE COME IN AND THEY ARE  
22 ESSENTIALLY COMING ON VACATION TO THIS SPOT, AND I DON'T MIND  
23 THEM HAVING THEIR VACATIONS, BUT WHAT WE WANT TO DO IS TO FIND  
24 SOME OF THE SOFT AREAS. I LOVE HORSEBACK RIDING AND I  
25 CERTAINLY WANT THEIR TRAILS TO BE MAINTAINED, BUT IN THE



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1 MEANTIME, WHAT WE ARE LOOKING AT IS, IS THAT THIS PLACE RIGHT  
2 HERE WE ARE SAYING THAT THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY THAT HAS ALL  
3 THE PUBLICITY IN THE WORLD FROM HOLLYWOOD NEEDS TO BE FIXED  
4 UP. IF THIS WERE NOT SUCH A BIG RAGGEDY TOWN THAT THREW PEOPLE  
5 IN SHOCK, OR COUNTY, IF YOU WILL, WHEN THEY GOT HERE, BECAUSE  
6 I WENT INTO SHOCK AND TOLD EVERYBODY THAT THIS WAS A RAGGEDY  
7 PLACE, IT IS NOT WHAT HOLLYWOOD REPORTS. AND SO WHAT WE NEED  
8 TO DO IS TO BRING IN MORE TOURIST DOLLARS IN THIS AREA, TAKE  
9 SOME OF THOSE MONEYS THAT ARE IN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE SOFT  
10 FUNDS SO THAT THINGS LIKE THE ESTRA LEADER OR STAR  
11 NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER THAT COULD BE BUILT, WHICH IS OUR IDEA,  
12 ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT, SO THAT SUCH  
13 THINGS AS THE CULTURAL REFLECTIONS PRODUCTIONS COMPANY THING  
14 CAN BE DONE, SORES PROJECT, AND ALL OF THOSE WONDERFUL THINGS  
15 LIKE BUILDING MORE HOSPITALS AND ALL THAT CAN BE DONE. SO ALL  
16 I'M ASKING YOU GUYS TO DO IS TO FIRST OF ALL, LOOK AT WHAT WE  
17 SENT TO THE PRESIDENT, BECAUSE STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM, ROD  
18 PAIGE, WHO IS A WONDERFUL GUY WHO TURNED THE HOUSTON SCHOOL  
19 SYSTEM AROUND. THEY PAID HIM WELL, BUT HE TURNED IT AROUND,  
20 AND HE BECAME THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND MR. BUSH IS  
21 ASKING US POOR BLACK REPUBLICANS TO COME UP THERE AND SEE WHAT  
22 WE CAN DO. SO IN ORDER TO MAKE THE PEOPLE BE HAPPIER, AND SO  
23 THE ONE THING THAT WE'RE ASKING OF THE BOARD IS IS TO FIND  
24 BETTER WAYS OF SPENDING YOUR MONDAY, BUT IN THE MEANTIME, LET  
25 US KNOW SINCE WE GOT HIS EAR RIGHT NOW, OR THEIR EARS, WHAT IT



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1 IS THAT THIS COUNTY NEEDS IN ORDER TO GET MORE MONEY IN,  
2 BECAUSE AS WE FOUND OUT, YOUR BEGGING TRIP DIDN'T WORK, BUT  
3 OURS, BASED UPON ALL OF OUR BUSINESSES GOING UP, I THINK WILL  
4 WORK A LITTLE BIT BETTER.

5

6 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. --  
7 THANK YOU.

8

9 **SPEAKER:** PLEASE READ. THANK YOU.

10

11 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. ROBINSON.

12

13 **SPEAKER:** OH YOU NEED ANOTHER COPY, SURE.

14

15 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** WOULD YOU PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME? THANK  
16 YOU. [ MIXED VOICES ]

17

18 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** MR. ROBINSON, WE'RE WAITING ON YOU, PLEASE.

19

20 **RICHARD ROBINSON:** MADAM CHAIRWOMAN, MEMBERS, RICHARD ROBINSON.  
21 FREEDOM IS A PRECIOUS COMMODITY. WHILE WATCHING MR. SHAPIRO'S  
22 LAST DIATRIBE ON CHANNEL 58, I AM REMINDED OF THE CORRECTNESS  
23 OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT, BUT IN HOLLYWOOD, THE LICENSE BEING  
24 TAKEN WITH IT IS ALLOWING THOSE WHO ABUSE THEIR FREEDOMS TO



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1 PROLIFERATE, SO AS YOU DELIBERATE, REMEMBER, THE INCREASING  
2 NEED FOR SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES. THANK YOU.

3

4 **SUP. BURKE, CHAIR:** THANK YOU VERY MUCH. TODAY'S BUDGET HEARING  
5 IS ADJOURNED TO TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, 2003, AT 10:00 A.M. THE  
6 BOARD WILL HEAR TESTIMONY FROM THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY AT 10:00  
7 A.M. AND THEN THE BUDGET HEARINGS WILL RECESS UNTIL NO EARLIER  
8 THAN 1:00 P.M. AT WHICH TIME THE BOARD WILL HEAR TESTIMONY  
9 FROM THE SHERIFF, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, COUNTY  
10 COUNSEL, AUDITOR-CONTROLLER, AND OTHERS REGARDING THE 2003/4  
11 PROPOSED BUDGET. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

12